

THE ELECTRICAL



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OFFICIAL JOURNAL

of the

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

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THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

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A STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The membership of our Brotherhood as a whole has an earnest desire that our organization shall be maintained in strength and that the purposes for which it *was established* shall be achieved.

The Brotherhood belongs to its members and in cases of disturbance the members have a right to know the conditions that prevail.

Until now I have refrained from making charges publicly against members. I will not now insinuate, but will make direct charge of those things which I state.

There is temporary trouble now existing in the organization, in that a small percentage of the membership is uncertain what to do and uncertain what may happen next, because of the insinuations spread broadcast by F. J. Sullivan and others and the actions of these same persons. There are probably some even who believe these insinuations to be true.

When our membership is scattered from Maine to Texas it would be strange if there were not some who would believe the lies which have been circulated so industriously.

I do not want to give this matter more importance than it deserves, so I wish the members to understand before I go further with this statement, that since the rump meeting in St. Louis, over 80 per cent of the locals in the Brotherhood have been in communication with our office, by remitting their per capita, making reports in the regular order of business, and dealing with the Grand Secretary and Grand President as duly constituted authorities, and there is yet considerable time within which the remainder have a right to report without being in arrears.

There is not any probability whatever that the disorganizers are going to be able to cause permanent trouble in the Brotherhood.

The history of the present trouble is a history of conspiracy on the part of Frank J. Sullivan, O. R. Davenport, M. J. Sullivan and others. Davenport was forbidden the privilege of the General Office because of matters he caused to be published.

He then began a systematic campaign, assisted by F. J. Sullivan, to injure the Brotherhood by publishing in the Springfield Record, a newspaper on which he is reporter, statements that there was great trouble in the Brotherhood and then statements were copied by other papers, and spread over the country.

F. J. Sullivan was discharged from the office of the Grand Secretary and later removed as Grand Treasurer for these reasons, among others: for taking the money of the Brotherhood without right, for improperly charging expenses to the order, for refusing to sign proper warrants and thus endangering the credit of the Brotherhood.

No appeal was taken by F. J. Sullivan from the action of the Grand President and Grand Secretary in discharging him. His discharge was approved by the Executive Board.

F. J. Sullivan knew that requests for a referendum on the holding of a special convention had been sent in and that said requests were held not to constitute authority for taking a referendum because no date was fixed in the requests, no questions for referendum was submitted, and two of the five Local Unions sending such requests were not in good standing.

No appeal was ever taken from the decision rendered thereon.

Davenport and Sullivan, however, ignoring the G. O. and attempting to defame us, sent out a circular purporting to be by a committee of L. U.'s 427 and 193.

We received affidavits from members whose names were signed thereto, stating

that the committee did not sign nor send this resolution, and ruled therefor such action was not legal.

Attached to the circular was a form of resolution, giving no date nor question for referendum, but stating to the *Grand President*, not to the G. S., that a special convention was desired.

I was advised that some such resolutions were in the G. O. I did not see them, however, until my return to the G. O. on June 21, 1908, after an extended trip on Brotherhood business.

In the meantime, on June 3, 1908, without further communications with me, without communication with the G. S., without communication with the E. B., a call for a vote was sent out purporting to be by L. U. No. 1 and purporting to be on the authority of the five L. U.'s above mentioned.

I am reliably informed that in fact L. U. No. 1, by a vote of part of its membership, gave a supposed power of attorney to F. J. Sullivan to take a referendum and F. J. Sullivan took a referendum, on the holding of a special convention.

A number of members thereafter met at Springfield, Ill., and reported to the E. B., then in session, that they had canvassed the vote, finding that a convention was desired by the Brotherhood.

They demanded that the E. B. call a convention. The E. B. voted that a convention be called by the G. S. and G. P., and so notified them.

The G. S. and G. P. were officially notified that if an attempt should be made by them to call a special convention on any such alleged authority, as they had, they would be enjoined from paying the expenses of such convention out of Brotherhood money.

At this same meeting of the E. B., the G. P. and G. S. demanded that F. J. Sullivan file charges against them, or admit his insinuations to be scandalous and baseless.

F. J. Sullivan thereupon filed with the E. B. a copy of the circular letter entitled the "Brotherhood Call," and signed it.

The E. B. asked him for proof of the insinuations in that circular.

He thereupon failed to produce any evidence, and has never produced any.

The G. P. and G. S. procured advice from three competent lawyers, one of whom was Louis Brandeis of Boston, Mass.

All these lawyers advised them that any member of the Brotherhood could enjoin the payment of the expenses of such a convention from Brotherhood funds.

The E. B. thereupon rescinded its action, and withdrew its directions to the G. P. and G. S.

Then F. J. Sullivan had one Louis Geib of L. U. 39 to file a bill for injunction praying that G. S. Collins be commanded to issue a call for a special con-

vention, and tying up the money of the Brotherhood that was in the Cleveland banks, on a temporary injunction.

G. S. Collins was in Springfield, Ill. The G. O. were in Springfield, Ill. No application was ever made to any court at that place, or to any court having jurisdiction over him or the G. P.

Sullivan did not want a holding of a court as to whether a special convention should be held. He did not want the G. S. or G. P. to be brought into court. He wanted to embarrass the Brotherhood by tying up the money of the Brotherhood at a place far from the G. O. and the residence of the G. S. and G. P., and to secure a decree for what he wanted by stealth.

He did not have any legal notice sent to the G. P., the G. S., or the E. B.

He slipped into court and answered on oath, admitting all the allegations of Geib's complaint, and asked as a defendant and admitted the truth of the bill, the prayer of the bill be allowed.

But G. S. Collins learned of the suit through one of the banks that was enjoined, and had answers filed for the Brotherhood. A motion to dissolve that injunction, made by the Brotherhood, is now pending, and will be heard as soon as the Court can get to it. The Brotherhood will get the money, but it is tied up for the present.

The D. C. monies have been held up on this account. F. J. Sullivan was requested to pay those monies on the signature of himself, G. T. McCadden and the G. S. In order to get the D. C.'s their money, the G. P. and the G. S. were willing to bow that far to F. J. Sullivan.

F. J. Sullivan refused to sign any checks unless the expenses of an illegal I. C. were paid from the funds. He had his Geib injunction modified to allow the withdrawal of money on the check of himself, G. T. McCadden, G. S. Collins, but refused absolutely to join in the payment of any Brotherhood obligations, unless the illegal special convention expenses were first drawn.

The answer of the Brotherhood having prevented a default decree in the Geib injunction suit, F. J. Sullivan had a call for a convention issued by L. U. 39 or issued it himself in the name of that L. U., I do not know which.

At any rate the call was accompanied by a lying circular got out by F. J. Sullivan. The call itself lies. It is when it says L. U. 39 issued it by authority of the G. P. and E. B. Neither authorized it.

It is when it says J. J. Reid was authorized to call the convention; that the G. P. was recovering from an operation; that the G. P. was incapable because of sickness to attend to his duties; that the answer of one defendant (that being F. J. Sullivan) would decide the Geib injunc-

tion suit; that there was any appeal by or from Peter Collins, G. S., to the E. B. It is apparent that it lied also in stating that a legal decision must be made before September 19, 1908.

It speaks well for the intelligence of the membership of the order that not one-sixth of the membership sent delegates authorized to take part in the meeting at St. Louis on September 15, 1908.

It is a further tribute to the intelligence of the Brotherhood membership, and it promises well for the accomplishment of the ends of organized labor, that since that St. Louis meeting over 80 per cent of the locals of the Brotherhood, as I have stated above, repudiate that meeting and are in communication with the G. O., though it was not necessary for many of them to communicate for some time yet. I do not mean that 20 per cent of the Brotherhood is following the disorganizers. Remittances, inquiries and reports are daily arriving from L. U.'s which had not reported since the St. Louis meeting. I mean that we have had dealing with over 80 per cent since that time.

If the Brotherhood remains steadfast in this way, as I have every assurance it will, the Brotherhood will soon clear itself of this mess.

There will be reports in the newspapers to the effect that the Brotherhood is in its last gasp, because it is part of the game the disorganizers are playing to fill the newspapers with such stuff. In fact, however, the Brotherhood is moving on and will continue to move on when these disruptionists are quieted.

After the St. Louis meeting, F. J. Sullivan, Jas. Murphy, and others claiming to be officers of the I. B., notified the Post Office authorities at Springfield, Ill., to turn over all I. B. mail to them.

The I. B. mail was accordingly held up for awhile, though none of it was turned over to them, but has since been regularly delivered.

I am reliably informed that since the Post Office authorities investigated the matter, one Jas. Murphy, who claims to be the G. S. of the I. B., has his official mail, however much it is, sent to James Murphy, Lock Box —. I infer from this that if mail be sent to him as G. S., it would not be delivered. It would appear that Mr. Murphy and Mr. F. J. Sullivan made a mistake in calling the attention of the Post Office to their existence.

After the St. Louis meeting information came to the G. O. that J. J. Reid, Jas. Murphy, F. J. Sullivan and others claiming to be officers of the I. B. by election at that meeting, would attempt to secure possession of the records, files and furniture of the G. O. by replevin.

Under the law of Illinois, if they should give bond they could take possession of

the property and prove their right to it afterwards.

G. S. Collins, representing to the Court what a catastrophe that would be to the I. B., secured an injunction restraining them from taking the property or interfering with the G. S. in the performance of his duties.

The defendants in this suit, F. J. Sullivan, Jas. Murphy, M. J. Sullivan, and others, have filed a long answer saying they are the Grand Officers of the Brotherhood, and *denying in a very evasive way that they intended to get out any writ of replevin*. They ask to have the injunction dissolved on these grounds. The attorneys for the Brotherhood assure us that there is no danger that the Court will hold that the disruptionists are the Grand Officers.

They assure us that the only possible way the defendants can get this injunction dissolved on their motion is upon their *denying positively that they intended to try to take the property*.

They say the denial of this intent by defendants and their answer is not sufficiently positive in their judgment to warrant a court in dissolving the injunction, but that even if the court should hold it to be sufficient and dissolved the injunction on that ground, we would immediately get another injunction if they did afterwards make the attempt to get the property.

The insinuations spread abroad, through newspapers and by circulars, against the characters of the General Officers has been irksome in the extreme. It has been very hard to bear. The Grand Officers would have been glad at all times to meet a legal convention to get a chance to kill these mean insinuations, and urgingly recommend a legal special convention be held January 18, 1909.

It has been reported in the daily press through the influence of at least one dear brother that we were in hiding and that we intended to resign if shown mercy. To the authors of these statements we wish to state that we are not in hiding; that we do not intend to resign and that we ask no mercy, but are going to fight the disruptionists and falsifiers to the finish and feel satisfied that when the truth is known the guilty ones will be shown up in their true light.

We can assure the rank and file of our Brotherhood that our organization is sound in every particular; that we are going to continue to do business in the future as we have done in the past. That its interests are going to be looked after and protected by every means within our power.

We desire to inform all Local Unions and members that it is their duty to be loyal to the banner of the Brotherhood

under which they have stood for years past, in times of peace as well as in times of battle with its enemies on the outside of our Brotherhood.

We never suspected at any period that we would be compelled also to fight enemies on the inside who would destroy our Brotherhood in order to advance their own personal interests. For the benefit of all who may be in doubt, let me say that every officer of your Brotherhood is bonded in accordance with our laws and are responsible for every penny entrusted to them.

Do not allow your membership to lapse by not sending your per capita tax to this office. If you are in doubt upon any question, write us and we will be pleased to answer you immediately. We would request all Local Unions to vote upon the question that is now in front of them as to whether they desire a special convention to be held January 18, 1903, or not. All Local Unions will be entitled to representation in accordance with our laws.

Yours fraternally,

F. J. McNULTY,
Grand President.

WARNING AGAINST DUAL ORGANIZATION.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

To the Local Unions and Members of the I. B. E. W.

GREETING:—Through the efforts of a number of individuals calling themselves members of the Brotherhood a serious attempt is being made to injure the Brotherhood and impair its credit. A fraudulent attempt is being made to secure remittances from local unions by parties illegally using the name of the Brotherhood. Stationery and letter heads nearly similar to that of the I. B. E. W. being sent to deceive and mislead the members and L. U.'s of the Brotherhood. A printed fac simile of the Brotherhood's seal is also used.

Temporary injunctions have been secured tying up the funds of the Brotherhood in an effort to impair its standing. District council funds have been enjoined as have the other funds of the Brotherhood. The object of these proceedings is to destroy the efficiency of the Brotherhood as a labor organization.

On August 17th a temporary injunction was secured in the Common Pleas Court of Cleveland, Ohio, restraining the officers of the Brotherhood from drawing the funds of the Brotherhood to meet its proper and legal obligations. By this injunction the D. C.'s of the Brotherhood have been deprived of securing money due them which was held to their credit in the D. C. funds. The parties interested are attempting to make the injunction permanent for the purpose of embarrassing the I. B., the District Councils and the L. U.'s.

It was stated in the spurious circular letter sent to the local unions from Cleveland, Ohio, by parties desiring to injure the Brotherhood, that all delegates from local unions to said illegal St. Louis meeting would be compensated, as the Court had made arrangements to turn

over the convention funds to the illegal convention.

Those in attendance at St. Louis found that the statement so circulated was untrue. They also found that the Grand officers and members of the E. B. were not in attendance at said illegal convention. It is very evident that somebody interested in injuring the interests of the Brotherhood furnished money for the expenses of said convention.

Scurrilous and defamatory circulars have been sent and will continue to emanate from the above mentioned source. Attempts have been made to deprive the I. B. of post office privileges for the Electrical workers.

Mail addressed to Peter W. Collins, Grand Secretary, is being held up by the post office on the false allegations of these parties that they were officers of the I. B. This holding of mail has caused a great embarrassment, delay and injury to the Brotherhood and local unions.

An attempt to injure the financial integrity of the Brotherhood has been made and many locals were advised to ignore the Constitution and refuse to pay per capita to the Grand Secretary, and were advised to send it to parties having no constitutional right to receive same.

All financial secretaries should see to it that their remittance is made out and sent to Peter W. Collins, Pierik Building, Springfield, Ill.

Fraternally,

PETER W. COLLINS,
Grand Secretary.

P. S.—Motions for a referendum vote for a legal special convention for January 18, 1909, from four (4) E. B. districts are now in the G. O., and referendum will be submitted when the required 5th is received.

TO ALL ORGANIZED LABOR.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 15, 1908.

The undersigned, the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, in session at Washington, D. C., September 9-13, had submitted to us, and we unanimously approved and indorsed the following report of the Labor Representation Committee, and which we urge every worker and friend to read, and take such action as will most effectually carry the same into effect:

LABOR REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 10, 1908.

To the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor:

COLLEAGUES:—The undersigned Labor Representation Committee selected by you to conduct the political activities of the organized efforts of the workers in the present political campaign to attain the legislative relief and remedy as outlined by the Minneapolis and Norfolk conventions of the American Federation of Labor; by the great conference of the responsible officers and other representatives of International Unions, held at Washington, D. C., March, 1908, and the directions given by you at our several meetings, begs leave to submit the following: We have held several meetings to consider and act upon the many matters committed to us, and those which from time to time have arisen.

We directed to be published in the August issue of the *American Federationist* the report of the A. F. of L. Legislative Committee submitted to and approved by the Executive Council. That report particularly recounted the failure of Congress to pass the legislation necessary to restore and safeguard the normal activities of organized labor's existence, as denied now by the decision of the United States Supreme Court, by holding that the unions of workers come under the Sherman Anti-Trust Law, are trusts, conspiracies, or combinations in illegal restraint of trade, rendering members of voluntary organizations of labor liable to threefold damages and prosecutions involving fines of \$5,000 and imprisonment for one year. Also the failure of Congress to consider, much less enact, any bill to secure the workers the constitutional guarantee of equality before the law by remedying the abuse and perversion of the injunction process.

We issued the circular to all organized labor as directed by you, setting forth the identical planks which we urged the Republican and Democratic Party Conventions to incorporate in their respective

platforms; the declarations which both parties incorporated and the treatment accorded the Executive Council by both parties.

We have sent organizers into the Danville, Ill., congressional district (Speaker Cannon's district) and into a number of other congressional districts, carrying out the policy of the American labor movement as directed by the conventions at Minneapolis and Norfolk, by the Washington Labor Conference, by this Executive Council, and by the great mass meetings held throughout the country April 19-20.

We desire to call attention to the fact that a number of conspicuous opponents, both in the United States Senate and in the House of Representatives, have been defeated for renomination through the activity inaugurated by us and by our fellow unionists in their respective states or districts, and, further, that a number of union men have been nominated for Congress and it is our purpose to render them every aid within our power to secure their election.

It is our purpose, to the full extent of our financial resources, to appoint a number of organizers and print such literature as deals with the primary and important interests of labor. Incident thereto, we have issued a supplementary appeal for financial assistance to the one issued a few months ago requesting voluntary financial contributions.

In addition to the funds already contributed, we recommend that another appeal be issued to secure financial means to further the election of men favorable to achieving the justice, rights, and equality before the law, to which the toilers are entitled; and to defeat such candidates who are indifferent or hostile to such legislative relief. We shall, in the future, as we have in the past, shape our course upon a nonpartisan basis. We have judged and proposed to judge candidates for any office upon their records and attitude and not because of their political party affiliation, and the funds obtained by previous, as well as to be obtained by the proposed, circular have been and will be used for general purposes as herein set forth and not for partisan purposes.

We have had a number of officers of international unions offer their services, as well as the services of organizers, to help both in organizing work, and, particularly at this time, in the furtherance of Labor's political campaign. We would recommend that officers of international unions be communicated with further for the purpose of placing organizers at our disposal to help further in this work to promote the general and specific interests of labor.

We also recommend that a request be made to the executive officers of National and International organizations affiliated to the American Federation of Labor, and other friendly associations, to issue immediately a circular to their respective organizations urging compliance with provisions of this document.

Attention is called to the symposium articles published in the September issue of the *American Federationist* on Labor's Political Duty at this time, and also the resolutions adopted by the conventions of International Unions, by the City Central Bodies, as well as expressions of some of the most active men in the labor movement of our country. They all show, as do the reports from our fellow workers throughout the United States, that there is an unanimity of sentiment and determination to fully carry out the policy declared by the organized labor movement, not only in the conventions of the American Federation of Labor, the International Union conventions, the State Federations, the City Central Bodies, but also in the local unions composed of the great rank of the organized workers of our country.

We desire to refute here the aspersions that have been cast upon the Executive Council and particularly one of its members, President Gompers, that it is our purpose, or his, to dictate to the working people of our country how they should cast their votes in the coming elections, nor has any one promised the vote of the working people to any particular party. We have strongly, clearly, and emphatically, as it was our duty, presented the situation in which the working people of the country find themselves, the demands which Labor has made upon both political parties as to necessary action which they should take, the treatment they have received, and have appealed to the judgment and patriotism of the working people and the friends of labor throughout the country, since both political parties have spoken, to make their choice as their conscience may dictate.

The misrepresentation of newspapers and others to the contrary notwithstanding, we repeat and insist, and we have so conducted and propose to so conduct our course, that the labor movement shall remain as free and independent from political partisan domination as it has ever been in its history.

You, as an Executive Council, and we as your Labor Representation Committee, have endeavored to carry into effect the declared policy of the great rank and file of the toilers. The convention of the American Federation of Labor have time and time again declared that there is no tendency so dangerous to personal lib-

erty, so destructive to free institutions and of a Republican form of government as the present misuse and extension of the equity power through the usurpation by the Judiciary * * * that candidates for office "be carefully investigated as to their acts and interrogated as to their position on this matter before they be given any support, and that those who, from their actions or their expressions, are deemed unsound, be, regardless of any other question, repudiated," and organized labor's further declaration, when the great conference at Washington and the mass meetings throughout the country were held that we now call upon the workers of our common country to stand faithfully by our friends, oppose and defeat our enemies, whether they be candidates for President, for Congress, or other offices, whether executive, legislative, or judicial.

Fraternally yours,

SAMUEL GOMPERS,
JAMES O'CONNELL,
FRANK MORRISON,

Labor Representation Committee, American Federation of Labor.

The present situation in which the workers of our country are placed by reason of the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States by which the normal activities of Labor's associated efforts are jeopardized and made unlawful, and the men constituting the rank and file of our movement threatened with civil suits, as well as persecution under the terms of the Sherman Anti-Trust law; the perversion, the abuse, and misdirection of the writ of injunction, under which many men throughout the country, including Samuel Gompers, John Mitchell and Frank Morrison, have either been sent to jail or are now threatened with, and undergoing proceedings by which they may be sent to jail demands that every worker and citizen at this crucial time should know the facts and do his duty.

We appeal to the officers of the National and International Unions to give not only their own personal service but to place such organizers as they can at the disposal of the Labor Representation Committee that such National officers issue a special appeal to their local unions and lodges to the end that voluntary contributions of financial assistance be made by the workers to aid in carrying into effect Labor's declared policy "*to stand faithfully by our friends, oppose and defeat our enemies, whether they be candidates for President, or Congress, or other offices, whether Executive, Legislative, or Judicial.*"

We appeal to all the labor and reform press of the country to aid in this duty of the hour, and to all workers and

friends to rise to the occasion which the exigencies of the time demand to the end that the voluntary organizations of labor, which have done and are doing so much to maintain the American standard of life, to sustain the American ideal of home, the American sense of equality and justice before the law, shall not be outlawed, crippled, or destroyed, and that the men of labor, the yeomanry of our Republic's welfare and perpetuity, shall be sustained in their determination to stand as the vanguard and defenders of personal rights and human liberty

Conscious of the nobility of our movement, the honorable aspirations of our cause, and the triumph of justice and right, with high resolve, we submit our cause and our appeal to the judgment

and conscience of our fellow workers and our fellow citizens.

Fraternally yours,
SAM'L GOMPERS,
President.

Attest:
FRANK MORRISON.
Secretary.

James Duncan, 1st V. P.
John Mitchell, 2d V. P.
James O'Connell, 3d V. P.
Max Morris, 4th V. P.
D. A. Hayes, 5th V. P.
Daniel J. Keefe, 6th V. P.
Wm. D. Huber, 7th V. P.
Jos. F. Valentine, 8th V. P.
John B. Lennon, Treasurer.

Executive Council American Federation
of Labor.

YOUR POLITICAL DUTY AS A CITIZEN.

Address by Past President Charles E. Glidden, Chandelier
Workers' Association, Local No. 607 I. B.
E. W., Detroit, Mich.

It is your duty, if you are of age, and a man, to vote at all elections, and to inform yourself before hand what measures and men you ought, as a good citizen, support.

It is your duty to act generally with some political party, and to exert your influence upon its leaders to induce the nomination of capable and honest men for office, and it is your duty, if your party nominates a bad man, to vote against him and thus keep the public and general good before your eyes, and set an example for true public spirit before your fellows.

It is your duty to watch the conduct of public officers, to see that they perform their duties and observe their constitutional limitations; and if they do not, then it is your duty to help to expose them and at the elections to punish them, for it is only by such vigilance that a nation can preserve its liberties unimpaired.

It is your duty as an American citizen to obey the laws, even if they are in your belief unjust or unwise. It is your right to expose the folly and injustice of a law, to demand its repeal and to try to get a majority to repeal it.

It is your duty to insist upon the prompt execution of the laws; to be ready even at much personal inconvenience, to aid in their enforcement, if you are called upon by proper officers and to resent with indignation every sign of lawlessness and violence, and require its vigorous suppression.

These are your political duties which you should not neglect. We all want a good government. If we do not, we should have none. We all want to live in a land where the law is supreme. We desire to live beneath a flag that will protect every citizen beneath its folds. We desire to be citizens of a government so great and so grand that it will command the respect of the civilized world.

Most of us are convinced that our Government is the best upon this earth. It is the only government where, politically, poverty is upon an exact equality with wealth, so far as controlling the destinies of the Republic is concerned. It is the only nation where the man digging in the street stands upon an equality with the millionaire. It is the only country in the world where, politically, the hut is upon an equality with the palace. For that reason, every poor man should stand by that government, and every poor man who does not is a traitor to the best interests of his children; every poor man who does not is willing that his children should bear the badge of political inferiority; the only way to make this Government a complete and perfect success is for the poorest man to think as much of his manhood as the millionaire does of his wealth.

A man does not vote in this country simply because he is rich; he does not vote because he has an education; he does not vote simply because he has talent or genius; he votes because he is a man and has his manhood to support

and we admit in this country that nothing can be more valuable to any human being than his manhood, and for that reason we put poverty on an equality with wealth.

We say in this country manhood is worth more than gold. We say that without liberty the nation is not worth preserving. I appeal to every one of you and I ask, is there another country on this globe where you can have your equal rights with others? Now, then, in every country, no matter how good it is, and no matter how bad it is, in every country there is something worth preserving and there is something that ought to be destroyed. Now, recollect that every voter is in his own right a king; every voter in this country wears a crown, every voter has in his hands the scepter of authority; every voter, poor or rich, wears the purple of authority alike and the man that will sell his vote is the man that will abdicate the American throne. The man that sells his vote strips himself of the imperial purple, throws away the scepter and admits that he is less than a man.

More than that, the man that will sell his vote for prejudice or for hatred; the man that will be lied out of his vote, that will be slandered out of his vote, that will be fooled out of his vote, is not worthy to be called an American citizen.

Now let us understand ourselves, let us endeavor to do what is right; let us say this country is good—we will make it better, let us say, if we do not live in a Republic, it shall not be our fault. Now that the platforms of the two big parties are before us for comparison and consideration, which way will the laboring men of the country vote next November? Which platform will appeal to us with the more force as promising more for our benefit? And having determined which of these parties through its platform is the more in sympathy with us and the more concerned in our welfare, will the laborers give their full strength toward the success of that party? Or will they, as in the past, put party name before principle and vote the way their fathers used to vote? Organized labor should vote as it marches on Labor Day.

Divided at any time in any cause, the real purpose of unionism is destroyed and its power lost. With labor going to the polls divided nothing can be accomplished save the annihilation of labor itself, the same as though an army were to turn its guns upon itself. What the army would do to itself with bullets, organized labor is doing to itself with ballots, when they go to the polls divided.

In organized labor lies the only hope of the workingman for just compensation for what he produces, for equal recogni-

tion with capital in the courts and for general fair play all around.

In disorganizing lies the hope of the selfish and overbearing employer and of unfriendly political parties, and likewise, the tendency toward discrimination in the courts on the side of capital. Of the two platforms you should not hesitate in choosing the one adopted in Denver. In it, your one great demand of the present day is met. In the Chicago platform it is repudiated. Samuel Gompers, as President of the American Federation of Labor, the National Organization, pleaded earnestly in the Republican convention for a positive declaration in the party's platform against government by injunction in the continued abuse of the injunction laws.

He submitted a plank drawn up in his own words as comprising the demands of union labor and it was thrown out bodily. Mr. Gompers' plank said something and that would never do. Mr. Gompers was excused and the anti-injunction plank was handed over to the official word-jugglers. And what the platform contained when adopted with regard to the injunction laws was nothing more or less than subterfuge in the hope of deceiving the mighty army of voters represented in Chicago by Mr. Gompers.

While purporting to promise labor relief from misuse of the injunction, the plank amounts practically to a pledge of faith in the law as it now stands, despite its flexible nature and many sided interpretations. Mr. Gompers folded his tent and went on to Denver.

Here he was found pleading again in behalf of the great majority which he represented, and this time he did not plead in vain—the voice of union labor was heard and a plank was inserted in the Democratic platform which says something and means something. The abuse of the injunction laws is admitted and its threatening aspect as permitting of discrimination against union labor in strikes is recognized. The party repledges its faith in the integrity of the courts of the United States, but says flatly, plainly and unequivocally that this law should be modified, and it promises to do so, once in power. Which way should we vote and vote together? These two platforms considered on this point alone? You may ask, why did the Republican convention resort to trickery rather than grant the demands of union labor? Because, brothers, there was a man in Chicago by the name of Van Cleave, representing a powerful organization, known as the National Manufacturers' Association, representing interests from which come large campaign contributions to the Republican party.

He opposed an anti-injunction plank from the drop of the hat, that is why,

what Mr. Gompers submitted was thrown out, and why the party did not dare to declare point blank in behalf of labor.

Mr. Van Cleave did not go on to Denver. The probability is, then, that he got what he wanted in Chicago, in a plank that is supposed to have been inserted in the Republican platform in behalf of labor. If Mr. Van Cleave is satisfied for the capitalists he represents after having opposed an anti-injunction plank and fighting tooth and nail.

Can union labor indorse the same platform? Would it be possible to serve both unionism and the avowed enemies of unionism in the same platform plank? No, brothers, Mr. Gompers had to go on to Denver. He is our leader and we will have to follow him there. He got what he wanted there, and being our representative, what he got, he got for us.

The Democratic ticket should be our ticket, if we are going to vote with

one of the old parties this fall. It should be our ticket because the other is the ticket of Mr. Van Cleave's party.

We all want the furnaces kept hot, we want the sky to be filled with the smoke of American industry and upon that cloud of smoke will rest forever the bow of perpetual promise.

A great many of our forefathers fought and died for this country and if men can afford to fight and die for it, we can afford to vote for it.

And now I beg of you, every man go to the polls on election day and vote as in your conscience you believe you ought to vote, for the best interests of this great nation.

I appeal to you one and all to stand with that part of the country that believes in law, in freedom of speech, in an honest vote, in civilization, in progress, in human liberty and in universal justice.

ASIATIC IMMIGRATION.

"The Political Menace."

"I recommend to Congress that an act be passed specifically providing for the naturalization of Japanese who come here intending to become American citizens."
—President's Message, second session of Fifty-ninth Congress.

HAWAII.

In discussing the danger to the Pacific coast states likely to result from the immigration of Asiatics and their incorporation into the body politic, either by naturalization or as native born voters, it is necessary that, as in previous articles, we base our argument upon the conditions prevailing in Hawaii, because similar conditions exist, though in a somewhat lesser degree—in the cities of Seattle, Vancouver, San Francisco and Los Angeles and also in many agricultural centers in Cali-

fornia, the other Pacific coast states and British Columbia.

From a total Asiatic population of less than 6,000 in 1878, forming only 10.2 per cent of the population of the Islands, the number of Asiatics had increased to 18,000 in 1884, and formed 22 per cent of the total. By 1890 the foreign born Asiatics had increased to 27,000 and constituted over 30 per cent. During the next six years their number had increased to over 41,000, and they formed over 38 per cent. In June, 1900, the number of foreign born Asiatics had increased to over 77,000 and formed more than 50 per cent of the entire population of the territory. The gradual growth of the Asiatic population of Hawaii to its present numerical preponderance is given in the following table:

ASIATICS IN HAWAII.

	1853	1866	1872	1878	1884	1890	1896	1900
Foreign-born Chinese	364	1206	1938	5916	17,937	15,301	19,382	21,746
Foreign-born Japanese	116	12,360	22,329	56,230
Totals.....	364	1206	1938	5916	18,053	27,661	42,711	77,976

The total population of the Islands in 1900 was 154,001, the foreign-born Japanese constituting 36.51 per cent and the foreign-born Chinese 14.12 per cent. The foreign-born Asiatics being 50.73 per cent of the total population.

The preponderance of Asiatics is even more marked in the census figures showing sex. Out of a population of 154,001 there were 106,369 males, the native and foreign-born Asiatic element representing 69,804 or 65.6 per cent of the total.

ASIATIC POPULATION OF HAWAII BY SEX
(1900.)

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Chinese	22,296	3,471	25,767
Japanese	47,508	13,603	61,111
	69,804	17,074	96,878

The census further shows that in 1900 there were 8,902 native-born Asiatics in the Islands; Chinese, 4,021; Japanese, 4,881.

It is not possible to determine with any approach to exactness the present population of the Islands, but we may form an approximate idea from the known number of arrivals and departures since the census of 1900 (up to June 30, 1908).

	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	Total.
Chinese (male)	154	151	125	93	523
Chinese (female)	70	83	68	60	281
Japanese (male)	26	35	25	37	123
Japanese (female)	23	30	23	17	93
	273	299	241	207	1020

Allowing the same birthrate during the next four years we would have an increase of over 2,000 native-born Asiatics in Honolulu alone. While the figures above possess some interest they are far from being conclusive. The preponderance of Chinese births is due to the fact that in practically all cases the Chinese register their children and take birth certificates in order to assure their child the rights of citizenship with its attendant privileges—leaving the Islands and visiting the mainland without hindrance. The Japanese population of Honolulu is as large as the Chinese and the registration of only 216 Japanese children as against 804 Chinese (1901-4) indicates that only a small portion of Japanese births were registered during those years. Since the beginning of 1907 the Japanese have, however, taken a new departure, they are now straining every nerve to obtain registration for their children, in some cases paying as high as \$50 for witnesses to appear and testify in order to obtain certificates for those born years ago.

It is possible, however, to arrive at a fairly correct estimate of the present number of native-born Asiatics, in Hawaii through a scrutiny of the school attendance. From 1902 to 1905 the increase of Chinese pupils was 42 per cent and the increase of Japanese 81 per cent—(Chinese children numbering 1,985, Japanese 3,609). In 1900 the number of Japanese pupils in the schools of Hawaii was only 1,352, while the number of native-born Japanese was 4,881. There were therefore in the schools 27.7 per cent of the total number. If the same proportion holds good until 1910 there will be 15,000 native-born Japanese in Hawaii, not counting the number who may have returned to

Between those years, 1900-1908, the arrival of aliens other than Asiatics was only 5,729, of whom 3,715 (chiefly Portuguese and Spaniards) were admitted in 1907, while the number of Asiatics admitted during the same period totaled 75,803, segregated as follows: Chinese, 2,692; Japanese, 65,708; Koreans, 7,403. Against these figures we place the known number of departures for the same years, Chinese, 9,473, Japanese 42,313, Koreans 721, total 52,507, of which number at least 40,000 found their way to the mainland.

It has been previously stated that in 1900 there were 8,902 native-born Asiatics in Hawaii, between that date and June, 1904, the registered births in Honolulu are shown in the following table:

the Orient or emigrated to the mainland with their parents. Including the native-born Chinese (1900), and their proportional increase, we may safely estimate the number of native-born Asiatics in Hawaii for the year 1910 at 25,000.

PART V.

MAINLAND OF UNITED STATES.

Turning to California and her sister states of the Pacific coast we find the Asiatic population in 1900 to be:

	Chinese.	Japanese.
California ..	45,753	10,151
Oregon ..	10,397	5,617
Washington ..	3,629	2,501
	69,779	18,269

or a total of 88,048 at the time of enumeration. The total Asiatic population on the mainland was 114,189—Chinese, 89,863; Japanese, 24,326.

Segregating the above totals according to sex, we find: Chinese, males, 85,341; females, 4,522; Japanese, males, 23,341; females 985. Since 1900 the number of Asiatics on the mainland has increased nearly 100 per cent (proceedings Asiatic Exclusion League, April, 1908), and this increase, with the exception of 3,000 Hindus and 2,000 Koreans, is chiefly through the admission of Japanese.

According to the above segregation the female element constituted a little less than 20 per cent of the total Asiatic population. For several years subsequent to 1900 Japanese females constituted about one-third of the immigrants of that race, but in 1907 there was a great change, the Japanese males numbering 27,240, while the females were only 2,986.

NATIVE-BORN ASIATICS ON THE MAINLAND.

Of the 18,227 native-born Asiatics in the United States and Hawaii the number on the mainland was:

	Male.	Female.	Totals.
Chinese	6,657	2,353	9,010
Japanese	156	113	269
	<hr/> 6,813	<hr/> 2,466	<hr/> 9,279

To the thoughtful investigator it appears improbable that with over 15,000 adult Japanese males and 900 adult females there should be only 269 native-born children. Discussing this phase of the question with a physician who formerly had much practice among the Japanese in San Francisco he declared that in one month, during 1898, he relieved more than twenty Japanese women of healthy children and further gave his opinion that the wonderful fertility of those people is one of the greatest dangers confronting the Pacific coast.

The difficulty of obtaining accurate data on this subject is very great, but from the records of the Pacific Mail Steamship company we ascertain that between 1900 and 1904 683 Japanese females arrived at the port of San Francisco and as they kept coming in increasing numbers until the proclamation of the president forbidding immigration via Hawaii, we may safely conclude that the number of prospective Japanese voters is rapidly increasing.

The small percentage of married females among the Chinese would indicate that the increase of this part of the population will continue to be comparatively slight. Nor do the Koreans as yet constitute an important factor in this problem because with a probable total of 12,000 there are not more than 1,000 women among them. The addition to the Korean population through native births, will probably be unnoticeable for many years. On the other hand the percentage of increase in the Japanese population through the excess of births over deaths and the greater number of Japanese women coming to the United States indicates an ever increasing source of alarm.

It was formerly the opinion of many economists that the Japanese would not remain here and consequently would menace no interest except that of the wage earner. Those gentlemen have had their illusions dispelled. The Japanese have come to stay. At the present time wherever possible they are securing land, through purchase or lease, and it is the inevitable conclusion that in all cases where land is owned or held under long leases by Japanese they will remain and rear large families and that this native-born population will one day be added to the voting population. This native-born

Japanese element may be added to the electorate very rapidly after 1910 and if the Japanese born in Hawaii and on the Pacific coast become eager to claim their citizenship the fear of future political domination by an aggressive Asiatic minority will become a reality.

But quite apart from surmises as to future political contingencies, even today the question of self-government in Hawaii is greatly complicated by the Asiatic element in that territory. Japanese cannot at present be naturalized and few of their children born in the Islands have yet reached the age where they can exercise the inherent privileges of their birth, but within a very few years the native-born Asiatics will exercise considerable influence if not complete control over the government of the Hawaiian Islands. In California we have already received an object lesson of what may be. A "native son" Chinese club, composed of some 800 members, ready to sell their votes to the highest bidder and the total male Japanese population of San Francisco, some 13,000 (though unable to vote) wearing the campaign button of a particular candidate for municipal honors. In support of these contentions we will paraphrase from a report of a federal officer at San Francisco, dated May 30, 1903: "The character of Asiatics who have been here for some time shows what would be their influence in public affairs if intrusted with the responsibilities of citizenship, or if they only exercise the influence they possess as voters. Chinese may be expected to vote for China when China shall be an issue, and Japanese for Japan when Japan is the issue, both combining their forces whenever their interests are affected. On all other occasions the franchise will be converted into a commodity offered to the highest bidder for the reason that no sense of its value or dignity is entertained. It presents a subject which goes far beyond the economics of labor. The very political life of our nation is at stake. That the Asiatic voters have not as yet come forward in any considerable numbers is not a criterion by which to judge either the number eligible to vote or their inclination to avail themselves of the privileges of acquired or inherent citizenship. It is the nature of the Asiatic to work quietly and persistently and at the right moment. When the number is large enough to constitute a balance of power the votes will be forthcoming."

Philosophers and philanthropists may preach about the common fatherhood and brotherhood of the races, but between the white American and the Asiatic there is no common tie whatever. There is no community of thought, nor of feeling, nor of sympathy. The character of an Oriental population degrades the idea of la-

bor, as did the chattel slavery of the south. The Asiatic is looked upon with contempt, even by his employer, but they in turn reciprocate thoroughly the race contempt which the whites feel for them. Even the second generation of Asiatics will develop a less desirable class than are the immigrants who come directly from the rice fields of Nippon. The two races are separated by every possible bar. In race, history, or traditions there is nothing in common. They differ in their spiritual ideals, religious beliefs and in their conception of female virtue and

morality. They differ wholly in their social conventions, their philosophy and habit of thought. The second and succeeding generations of these Asiatics, however much they may conform to American social and business customs, will remain alien in thought, sympathy and loyalty and will be in consequence unable to properly perform the duties of American citizenship. Such being the result of citizenship, inherent by birth on American soil, what shall be said of the proposition to confer upon them the privilege of naturalization?

REPRESENTATIVE OF LABOR ADVOCATES IN- DUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

THE campaign being waged by the National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education is rapidly bringing the questions of industrial education to the fore. The board of education in New York City has recently decided to establish vocational schools for girls and boys from fourteen to sixteen years of age and also to extend the teaching of manual training in the seventh and eighth grades to many more schools than at present.

Samuel B. Donnelly, a member of the board of education, secretary of the General Arbitration Board of the New York Building Trades, and one of the board of managers of the National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education, in a recent address, said: "Our public schools have 'featured' literature and devoted too much attention to the literary development of the imaginative faculties. There has been too much one-sided presentation of our great men to the children of the public schools. Washington as the agriculturist and Jefferson as the architect and builder have been neglected. I contend that the prevalent methods in the elementary schools influence and unduly attract all children toward those occupations known as professional service. The superintendent of schools in the City of New York, Dr. William H. Maxwell, has extolled the merits of a 'system of schools which discovers and reveals genius born in low estate and enables it to fructify for the common good.' We ask for a system that not only reveals the genius of music, the genius of art, the genius of literature, the genius of statesmanship, but one that reveals the genius of mechanics and the genius of industry."

The vocational school for boys to be

organized by the New York board of education will be opened in the autumn at Allen and Hester streets, in the crowded lower East side of the city. The instruction will include woodworking, metal working and mechanical drawing and several hours a day will be devoted to scholastic subjects related to industrial topics. It is planned to locate the vocational school for girls in Brooklyn. The courses will consist of the domestic arts and sciences, including hand and machine work, dressmaking, millinery, cooking and possibly certain phases of design and the applied arts.

The board of education of any town or city in the United States wishing to establish elementary industrial schools can secure much aid by communicating with the National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education at its headquarters, 546 Fifth avenue, New York. This society has formed a committee of ten under the chairmanship of Dr. Henry S. Pritchett, president of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, which will lay out plans for the development of these schools in connection with any public school system, indicate the subjects to be pursued and methods of articulating them with the chief industries of the town. It is not the intention to have these schools take the place of trade schools, but rather to lay a foundation that will enable a girl or boy to greatly shorten the apprenticeship period which cannot begin until the age of sixteen. It is expected that this committee will equal in importance the famous committee of ten which President Eliot of Harvard was chairman, and which laid out the course of elementary schools which is now practically followed throughout the country.

EDITORIAL.

PETER W. COLLINS.

GOMPERS AND TAFT.

The effort of President Gompers, of the A. F. of L., in the present campaign is appreciated and heartily endorsed by the trade unionists of the United States. While all the subsidized papers of the country are attempting to belittle his work and impugning his motives, the fact is very evident that the great body of workingmen of this country are with him heart and soul, and are encouraging him in the work he is doing.

Sam Gompers is a man of unquestioned integrity, one who, to a greater degree than any other, is bestowed the confidence of the Trade Union Movement. He has ever been in the vanguard of workers, giving his best effort for their cause, devoting his life to the men and the works of labor.

The faith that is placed in him will be shown on election day at the ballot box, and we have reason to believe that the expression of that confidence will be unmistakable and emphatic.

The Trade Union Movement today is menaced by the unfair and unsympathetic position of the Republican party toward the movement of labor.

The representative of that party, who is its standard bearer in this campaign, has no love for the men of labor and mighty little sympathy with the cause of trade unionism.

He has shown in his actions while a Federal judge that his sympathies were with the great combinations of capital and his sympathies apparently determined his actions, especially in the Toledo and Ann Arbor injunction case.

He, in his address before the American Bar Association at Richmond, Va., in 1897, said:

TAFT JUSTIFYING INJUNCTION.

"If it were possible by the quick blow of an injunction to strike down the conspiracy against public and private rights involved in the corruption of a Legislature or a Council, Federal and other Courts would not be less prompt to use the remedy than they are to restrain unlawful injuries by Labor Unions, but I have had occasion to point out that the nature of corporate wrong is almost wholly beyond the reach of Courts, especially those of the United States. The corporate miners and sappers of public virtue do not work in the open, but under cover. Their purposes are generally accomplished before they are known to exist, and the traces of their evil paths are destroyed and placed beyond the possibilities of legal proof. On the other hand, the chief wrongs committed by labor unions are the open, defiant trespass upon property rights, and a violation of public order which the processes of courts are well adapted both to punish and prevent.

"The real objection to the injunction is the certainty that the disobedience will be promptly punished before a court without a jury. It is hardly necessary to

defend the necessity for such means of enforcing orders of court; if the court must wait upon the slow course of a jury trial before it can compel a compliance with its order, then the sanction of its process would be seriously impaired."

This is the Taft who today seeks the suffrages of the working people with words of money, the same Taft who never dreamed that his own words would come back to mock and jibe him.

This is the presidential aspirant who designated the trial by jury in contempt cases an abomination.

This is the same Taft who delivered the "quick blow of an injunction" when he wasn't seeking votes. By his deeds ye shall judge him.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The rule or ruin slogan can never win the approval of real trade unionists.

Self-seekers seldom see their failings.

The sacrifice of self-respect from the fear of unpopularity is an injury to character.

IMPORTANT SPECIAL NOTICE.

Just as we are going to press it has come to my attention that another one of those lying and unfounded circulars have been sent to all of our Local Unions. This is done for the purpose of confusing our membership, as will be noted by the fact that it contains a ballot for each Local Union to send in its vote on the question of our holding a legal special convention on January 18, 1909.

F. J. Sullivan has spread it broadcast that he is going to prevent a special convention of our Brotherhood from being held on January 18, 1909, and this is one of the tactics he has employed to carry out his threat, as he thinks it will cause confusion among our members and that the returns that are intended to be sent to Grand Secretary Collins will find their way to the lock box which he refers to in his circular.

He is urging the Local Unions to vote against holding the special convention, and his reasons for this are very apparent. He knows in his heart that the rump meeting held in St. Louis had no legal standing and could not be recognized in any way, shape or form in accordance with our laws and that the money expended there cannot be paid from the funds of our Brotherhood and he hopes therefore to get enough of our members paying money to him to pay

some of the expenses incurred through his recommendation and assurance of its return.

He further knows that the truth will prevail at a legal special convention, and that every one will be given an opportunity to defend himself or make whatever charges he can substantiate against any and all officers of the Brotherhood. He fears that this opportunity will be given to the officers, and that he will be discredited and shown up as the unmitigated liar I can prove he is.

All Local Unions should pay no attention to this circular letter, but vote in favor of holding a special convention January 18, 1909, so that the searchlight of investigation can be thrown on all actions of all of the Grand Officers. If he fears such a searchlight, we do not, as can be proven by the position that we assumed at the Executive Board meeting when we begged him to bring forth any evidence he might have to substantiate the accusations and insinuations made against us through his various circular letters.

We will not resort to the mean and contemptible tactics adopted by him and his fellow disrupters, but will await the proper time and place to make reply.

Fraternally,

F. J. McNULTY,
Grand President.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY NOTES.

IT is the duty of the F. S. to remit per capita promptly and regularly so that the standing of any brother at the G. O. will not be jeopardized through delay.

* * *

NAMES of members on whom assessments are to apply must accompany remittance for assessment on per capita sheet marked Special Assessment.

* * *

THE F. S. should notify the G. O. when withdrawal cards are issued giving full name of member to whom card is issued.

* * *

THE F. S. is bonded through the G. O. and is responsible for per capita paid to him. It is his duty, therefore, to see that same is promptly remitted to the G. O. and thus protect the paying brother and himself.

* * *

MAKE out your reports in alphabetical order and see to it they are neat and accurately made out.

* * *

DON'T let unjust complaints deter you from doing your duty?

* * *

YOU are F. S. and are responsible for the manner in which your office is conducted, therefore you must do your duty as you see it, and not as some one with a grouch wants you to see it.

* * *

DON'T fear the knocker, as he only injures himself.

CORRECT mistakes when they are called to your attention.

* * *

WE all make mistakes, but should guard against repeating them.

* * *

THE F. S. should see to it that each member pays his special assessment, as failure to pay same will jeopardize his standing.

* * *

THE assessments should be remitted to the G. O. on per capita sheet. The sheet should contain the names of all members paying assessment and sheet should be marked "Special Assessment Sheet." Per capita payments or initiations should not be marked on said sheet.

* * *

EACH F. S. should remit per capita sheet regularly and promptly each month, and see to it that it is neatly and accurately made out.

* * *

WHEN T. C.'s are issued, per capita for the life of the card must be sent to the G. O.

* * *

NOTIFICATION is sent to the F. S. by the G. O. when cards which were issued to members upon whom per capita had not been sent.

* * *

THIS notice is sent so that the traveling brother's record will be clear, and also to avoid mistakes of omission and commission on the part of the F. S.

STANDS BY THREE LABOR LEADERS.

The following was unanimously adopted by the big labor convention at Hannibal, Mo., and ordered forwarded to the American Federation of Labor officials:

WHEREAS, Three of our most prominent and trusted leaders, namely, Samuel Gompers, John Mitchell and Frank Morrison, are now on trial and within the shadow of prison for exercising their constitutional rights as American citizens of free speech and free publication, a right cemented by the blood of the patriots of 1776, which established this alleged free country; and

WHEREAS, This is another strenuous illustration of the application of the "injunction," an alleged violation of which can be construed by the judge issuing the injunction of "Contempt of Court," and punished by depriving the

accused of their liberty without trial by a jury of their peers, a right forced from King John by the English barons at Runnymede 800 years ago, and held sacred and inviolate among the English-speaking people ever since, until the invention of the injunction; therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Missouri Federation of Labor, in convention assembled, That we send words of good cheer to our respected and beloved leaders urging them to continue the brave fight they are making for the maintenance of the liberties of the people, purchased at so great a cost, and just as the men of 1776 announced to the world, we stand ready to pledge our lives and liberty in an endeavor to retain the sacred heritage of liberty handed down to us by our forefathers.



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PETER W. COLLINS, Editor.

Pierik Building, Springfield, Illinois.

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Subscription, \$1.00 per year, in advance.

This Journal will not be held responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

The first of each month is the closing date; all copy must be in our hands on or before.



The H. W. Rokker Co., Springfield, Ill.

INFORMATION.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Bro. D. M. (Kid) Clarke, late of Dallas, Texas, please notify V. H. Torbert, Fin. Sec. No. 69, Box 827, Dallas, Tex. Information of importance to him.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of E. O'Neill, initiated in 362 of Kankakee, Ills., will confer a favor by advising his mother, Mrs. Mary Anne O'Neill, 190 3d Ave., Kankakee, Ills.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Philip O'Conner late of No. 156, Fort Worth, Texas, and oblige, Wm. A. Neilson, Pres. Local No. 95, Joplin, Mo.

If A. G. Thomas or anyone knowing his whereabouts will do a great favor to write his wife who is greatly distressed, last heard from Enid, Okla. Address, Mrs. Nettie Thomas, 1009 Crockett st., Houston, Tex.

Anybody knowing the whereabouts of Bro. D. F. Kane, of Local No. 20, kindly advise his wife, Mrs. D. F. Kane, (Rear) 37 Warrenton St., Boston, Mass.

If Tom Ivey sees this please write to A. C. Winsch, Dillon, Colo., care Ed. Parker.

If Bro. Raymond McCormick, of Greenwood, Wis., should see this kindly write to S. J. Talaska, Ashland, Wis.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Samuel L. Blair will confer a favor upon Mrs. Emma Lamb, his sister, by notifying her at 622 Tyler street, Topeka, Kansas.

This is to remind W. L. Wiles, card No. 4650, formerly of Pittsburgh, Pa., of a board bill which he left unpaid in Chicago, Ill., about May, 1908. Please attend to this at once, as it does not become a man with supposedly clean hands. By Local No. 9, Chicago.

J. W. YOUNT.

Any one knowing the whereabouts of Frank Whalen, a member of No. 140 of Schenectady, better known as Harp Whalen, please notify his wife, as there is information to his interest awaiting him. Mrs. Frank Whalen, 17 New Butternut St., Syracuse, N. Y.

Any one knowing the whereabouts of John Hammersmith Millikens will confer a favor on his father by communicating with John Millikens, 2614 Kensington Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.

NOTICE.

Any one wishing to know working conditions in Old Mexico write to Charles V. Ross, 38027, Carcel Publico, Vera Cruz, Old Mexico.

Attention is hereby called to the fact that certain agents from Seattle, Wash., are endeavoring to secure men throughout the country to go to Seattle, Wash., to take the place of the men on strike in that city. Careful watch should be made by the L. U.'s for such agent and see that the members are not led astray by misrepresentation.

We desire to inform you that owing to the resignation of Mr. James L. Gernon, secretary-treasurer of the Metal Trades department, American Federation of Labor, the executive board has selected Mr. A. J. Berres of the Pattern Makers' League as his successor.

JAMES O'CONNELL, President.

In circular dated September 10, 1908, which was sent to all Local Unions and printed in the September issue of the WORKER, there appears the following:

"The requests for a convention for February, 1908, above mentioned show that they came from the same source," etc.

It should have read, "The requests for a convention for February, 1908, above mentioned referred to the same wrong section of the Constitution," namely, 5 instead of Section 3, etc.

TO BROS. OF THE I. B. E. W.:

Please look out for a man named Harry Holly. He came here on a borrowed Wabash pass which he kept for himself. Worked two weeks here on a tower being constructed to cross the Mississippi; when the boys asked him for his card he had none and was discharged by the foreman. He then forged a check for \$18.50, beat his board for \$36.00, left his wife in this city penniless with her clothing locked up for board bill, and left for parts unknown. Any Electrical Worker knowing his whereabouts please notify H. Sterling, Pres. Local No. 67, Quincy, Ill.

WANTED.

John A. Johnson, initiated by No. 106 of Jamestown, card No. 13875, to communicate with our Financial Secretary, J. E. McCadden, 391 Herkimer St., Buffalo, N. Y. If Bro. Johnson fails to answer this notice, he is liable to hear something to his disadvantage in the next issue.

LOST.

LOST—Bro. R. H. Richardson lost T. C. No. 59250 on Cotton Belt train No.

2, on Monday, Aug. 17. If card is presented Secretaries please take up and send to J. W. Johnson, F. S. of 251, Pine Bluff, Ark. Bro. Richardson has card marked Duplicate; also lost Due Book.

LOST—R. A. Ketheway's card, No. 133479. Return to 865 Broadway, Oakland, Cal.

LOST—1908 Due Book No. 100804, in Ft. Worth, Texas. If found please send care Local 111, Denver, Colo.

A. C. WINSCH.

OUR "BILL."

On the 4th of March in 1909

A brand new "Bill" we'll get;
Which ever "Bill" the people choose
Must "show us" then, you bet.

And when he's landed in that chair,
Where four years he's to sit,
Here's hoping he will prove the real
And not a counterfeit.

We hope he'll show that he's made up
Of honesty and grit;
Of sympathy and love for all,
And not back down or quit.

We hope he'll prove the real "Bill,"
The people's real choice,
And every one of us will feel
In government he's a voice.

We hope that his "protection" will
Extend to rich and poor,
To office, shop and factory,
And that it will endure.

We care not for "16 to 1,"
"Our policies," "big sticks;"
With unequal opportunity
And justice playing tricks.

We do not care for "Teddy" bears,
Nor yet for "Billy" goats;
Nor any other silly fads
Used just for catching votes.

No cross of gold for pampered wealth,
No crown of thorns for toil;
No Trust to monopolize
The products of our soil.

We care not for your creed nor fame,
Your politics nor birth;
We care not for "prosperity,"
With Justice crushed to earth.

We want laws made for one and all,
Enforced on all alike;
No reversals for the Oil Trust,
And injunctions for the strike.

Go forth you Willies; play your game;
You both can not be "it;"
But let us hope the one who wins
Will prove no counterfeit.

—John F. Colligan.

LABOR AND POLITICS.

BY JOHN R. COMMONS.

In summarizing the report which Mr. Sullivan and I have made on political and labor conditions in America and Great Britain, it is impossible for me to pick out the sentences here and there favorable to municipal ownership and to discredit the sentences favorable to private ownership. I shall take the report as a whole, and shall try to bring together all of the facts exactly as they are and in their true proportions. In order that my position may be more clearly understood I will say in advance that neither the municipal ownership nor private ownership have accomplished the good results in the United States that should be expected of them, and both are far behind what both have accomplished in Great Britain. I attribute this backwardness mainly to the infancy of the movement for a municipal ownership in the United States. The American people have never seriously studied in detail the financial, political, administrative and labor conditions necessary to make municipal ownership a success, because they have never had thrown upon them the responsibility and necessity of making it a success. The question has not yet been big enough to attract attention and all the energies of the people in municipal government have been consumed in fighting the private corporations which have possession. We are in precisely the same position that British municipalities occupied forty years ago in the gas business and fifteen to thirty years ago in the street car and electricity business, and the two most noticeable facts regarding the movement in Great Britain are the steady improvement made in municipal operation after municipal ownership have passed the fighting stage and had become a settled policy, and also the great improvement in private ownership and operation during the same period. In comparing the two countries, I have been impressed by this fact more than anything else, that successful private operation follows successful municipal operation. The private companies of Great Britain have learned to accept and act upon a view of their public obligations which we have found to be utterly foreign and inconceivable to the managers of similar private undertakings in the United States. This is seen most strikingly in the fact that the British companies were willing that our engineers should make a physical valuation of their properties for comparison with their capitalization and their earnings, whereas the American companies would not permit such a valuation. Many of the British companies also for years have been subject to complete publicity of their

accounts, an examination of their books by public auditors and accountants, thus furnishing information that we were not able to get in America. This kind of information is essential, both from the standpoint of the prices paid by consumers and that of the wages paid to employees, because it enables us to know whether prices are as low and wages as high as the companies can reasonably afford. Another instance of the higher view of their obligations held by British companies is the many precautions they have taken to conciliate their employees, and to prevent the necessity of strikes. In every case this higher view has come about because the companies have before them the menace of municipal ownership if they do not live up to their public obligations. They cannot afford to have strikes, because they would at once arouse into action the demands for a municipal ownership. They cannot afford to keep their accounts private because in order to head off municipal ownership they must let the people know just how much profit they are making. The consequence is that many of the vices which we have found in private ownership in the United States and which were formerly found in Great Britain have been largely eliminated in that country. And at the same time the vices and crudities of municipal ownership which we have found in the United States have been largely eliminated in Great Britain through experience and through the active comparison which can always be made with private ownership.

With these preliminary observations it will be seen that in weighing and interpreting the facts, I cannot, as an offset to the summary prepared by my colleague, confine myself simply to the facts that discredit private ownership, and exalt municipal ownership, but I must summarize all of the facts. In doing so, my interpretation requires that at least for some time to come both private ownership and municipal ownership be carried along side by side in the same country; that each municipality have full power and home rule to change from one to the other according to its judgment of which it is that offers the better results in the given case; and that in this way the defects of both municipal and private ownership in the United States may be gradually eliminated and both may be brought to the higher level occupied by both in Great Britain.

MONOPOLIES AND POLITICS.

I take it that the key to the whole question of municipal or private ownership is the question of politics. For politics is simply the question of getting and keeping

the right kind of men to manage and operate municipal undertakings or to supervise, regulate and bargain with the private undertakings. The kinds of business that we are dealing with are essentially monopolies performing a public service and are compelled to make use of the streets which are public property. If their owners are private companies they are compelled to get their franchises and all privileges of doing business and all turns and conditions of service from the municipal authorities. And in carrying out their contract with the municipality they are dealing continually with municipal officials. Consequently it is absurd to assume that private ownership is non-political. It is just as much a political question to get and keep honest or business-like municipal officials who will drive good bargains with private companies on behalf of the public and then see that the bargains are lived up to as it is to get similar officials to operate a municipal plant. We do not escape politics by resorting to private ownership, we only get a different kind of practical politics.

Since these businesses are monopolies of public service, and must make use of public property, the question of municipal ownership is entirely different from that of other kinds of business. A private business that has no dealings with municipal officials and is regulated by competition has no place in this investigation except by way of contrast. We have found that this difference between the two kinds of business is not always appreciated by certain classes. These are the socialists and the public utility corporations. The socialists are opposed to private competition in any form and would extend public ownership to all kinds of business. The public utility corporations and their defenders naturally seize upon this position of the socialist to confuse the issues respecting their own kind of business. The public at large is misled for a time until the distinction comes to be one of practical importance. This attitude of the several parties to the controversy was most clearly brought to our attention in Glasgow, where public ownership has been extended to all of the businesses occupying the streets. Following the municipal tramways of 1894, many projects were brought forward for further municipalization, including banking, housing, insurance, tailoring and baking. Councillors were elected favorable to these proposals, and the voters, inspired by the remarkable success of the tramways, were not critical in their inspection of these new enterprises which the council was contemplating. In the midst of this socialistic tide, two anti-municipal ownership associations were organized—the citizens' union and the rate payers' federation. They started

an active agitation, and along with other influences, the tide of municipalization has been checked or stopped. We were led to believe that from these two associations we could secure information that would correct the universal endorsement of municipal ownership found elsewhere in Glasgow, but were surprised to find that both associations endorsed all that had been done in municipalizing tramways, electricity, gas, and water. They only opposed the municipalization of other undertakings competitive in character. No more conclusive endorsement of the success of municipal ownership in Glasgow could have been brought to our attention, but at the same time nothing more conclusive could be offered to show that the general public cannot be permanently deceived by the fallacy of the socialists and the dodge of the franchise corporation in confusing competitive business with monopolistic public service business. The essential difference is that the public service business is in politics, whether operated by a private company or by a municipality, but the competitive business does not depend upon politicians for its profit.

At this point I am unhappily compelled to put in a word of personal explanation as to the facts brought out in our investigations. I do this with the greatest reluctance and only because my colleague has seen fit to discredit or disclaim those portions of our report which deal with the political activity of public service corporations. The personal explanation required is to the effect that I investigated thoroughly or, as he says, "Sifted the back stairs and dark room talk down to substantial truth." Both of the political activities of municipal undertakings and political activities of private undertakings; and the entire report as it stands except New Haven and Philadelphia, was written by myself on the basis of facts which I personally investigated. I have set forth in complete detail the political facts regarding municipal operation, to which he confines his summary, and have also set forth in the same ways political facts regarding private operation. Both are backed by the same thoroughness of investigation, and I am as positive of the facts stated in the one case as in the other.

POLITICAL EMPLOYEES.

This can be tested by the situation of the Wheeling Gas works. The secretary of the Wheeling Gas trustees quoted by my colleague as testifying to the political rottenness of the municipal gas works is the same man who testified to the political rottenness of the private gas, electricity and street car companies of that locality. Instead of relying on his statements I interviewed a large number of officials, politicians, business men, em-

ployees and others, and checked up his statements respecting both the gas works and the corporation. This shows that while the gas works are in politics, the public service corporations are also in politics. The gas employees take part in the primaries of the Republican party and the motormen and conductors of the street car companies are given leave of absence on pay to work in the primaries of both the Republican and Democratic parties. Even the officers of the Street Railway Employees' Union take part in this kind of traction politics on behalf of their employees. The councilmen and aldermen nominated and elected in this way control the municipal gas works and they control the franchises and contracts of the private companies. The "city hall ring" is just as much a ring of the political tools of the private corporations as it is a ring of municipal politicians. To pick out the politics of the gas works and not to see that it is bound up with the politics of the private corporations would be a perverse and one-sided method of investigation. The report gives not selected facts but all the facts in the situation. Indeed, the secretary of the Wheeling Gas trustees in his indignation towards the political management of the gas works, referred to by my colleague was defeated in the Republican primaries by the motormen and conductors of the street car company on leave of absence as political workers.

In cities other than Wheeling, the convention system prevails instead of the direct primaries, and consequently it was not found that the wage earners of the private companies took a similar active part in political campaigns. But in Syracuse, Allegheny, Indianapolis, and Philadelphia where municipal employees are named by politicians, it was found also that street car, electric, gas and water companies had employed men on the recommendation of councilmen, mayor or chairman of a political committee. This practice was carried furthest by the street car companies of Syracuse and Allegheny. In Chicago, where a most rigid civil service law is in force, no evidence of political appointments could be found in the municipal electricity or water departments during recent years but men were hired on recommendation of aldermen by the private electrical companies at the time when their contracts were before the council for renewal.

There is a distinction which has been found in all of these cases between political appointments in municipal undertakings and political appointments by franchise corporations. The aldermen or mayor who secures the appointment of a political supporter on a municipal job exerts himself just as much to retain that man in his job as he did to get the ap-

pointment for him. But both he and his supporters take a different view when the appointment is secured with a street railway, gas or electric company. The alderman then says: "I get the job for you, but you must make good; I cannot keep the job for you. The company has the right to discharge you if you don't do your work." It is for this reason that the private company has an advantage over the municipal management under the spoils system, for it can get rid of a political appointee after trying him out and finding him inefficient. This explains also why it is that the employees of a franchise corporation, even though they get their appointments through politicians, are nevertheless found to take an active part in organizing themselves in a trade union, but where they depend on the politicians for retaining their jobs and improving their wages and conditions they do not look to a union for protection. Where the politician's support stops after appointment as in a private undertaking, they are more likely to protect themselves by organizing a union. The result is similar in a municipal undertaking when civil service reform releases the employee from depending on a politician. The trade unions in Chicago have no difficulty in organizing the workmen who have been appointed through the civil service commission, but they are not able to get the "holdovers" who came in through political pull.

Curiously enough the politician profits more in some respects by the appointments which he secures for his supporters with a franchise company than he does by those on municipal jobs. Since all parties understand that the alderman's influence stops after appointment, there is no ill feeling on the part of his supporter if he is discharged. He and his family and friends continue to be the supporters of the alderman who has done his best for them, and his discharge at the same time makes room for the alderman to name another man who also with his family and friends becomes supporters. It is different in municipal employment, where it is expected that the politician who gets the job for his follower will keep it for him. If he is removed from that job he loses confidence in the ability or good faith of the politician. On account of these differences in the attitude of workmen, politicians and managers, the private corporation in politics is more efficient from the standpoint of its stockholders than the municipal undertaking in politics and at the same time a capable politician can build up his organization just as effectively under one system as under the other. Where civil service rules are in force, as in the Chicago electric and water departments, this political influence is excluded, but there is no way

of preventing a private corporation from hiring its employees on the recommendation of a politician.

There are other differences which operate to the advantages of the private corporations. Its employees are more minutely specialized, and a few positions of a permanent semi-political character are created which are kept distinct from the technical and administrative positions, whereas in the municipal undertaking, without civil service rule, a large proportion of the positions are likely to be semi-political. The municipal undertaking is compelled to keep a few sub-managers, foremen and inspectors, who are familiar with the layout of the plant and distributing system, and such positions have been found to be permanent, while the other positions are subject to political vicissitude. In the private corporations investigated, the political positions are found not so much in the operating department as in the legal department, and among the directors, presidents and highest officials. These make the bargains directly by means of a cash consideration or otherwise, with the political managers. Only where nominations are made by direct primaries, as in Wheeling, has it been found that the rank and file of the employees are retained on account of this political influence.

Under the convention system of nominations the principal activity of private corporations was found to be that of contributions to the expenses of campaign committees and candidates. It is difficult to see that it is necessarily dishonorable or corrupt for any citizen to contribute according to his ability toward the expenses of his political party in conducting a campaign. The education of the voters respecting the issues is of the greatest importance and requires corresponding expenditures. But for some reason these contributions are looked upon as strictly confidential, and it was only through the accident of my personal acquaintance with certain participants in Syracuse and Indianapolis that any information on the point was given to me. This shows a contribution of \$2,000 in Syracuse by two directors of the gas company to the Democratic campaign committee, in a municipal election. It shows contributions at Indianapolis by the water company in the municipal campaign of 1903 of three hundred dollars, and in 1905 of \$1,500 to the Democratic committee, and in 1905 of five thousand dollars to the Republican committee. In 1905 the street car company paid \$10,000 to the Republican committee and \$2,000 to the Democratic committee, and the gas company paid \$17,000 to the Republican committee. The Republican administration elected in 1905 has to deal with important franchises and contracts renewable during its term. Professor Gray's investigation of

the New Haven water company shows that the president of the Common Council which granted a perpetual franchise to the company was one of the company's own employees and that the company expended \$20,457.44 to get this franchise through the council and the legislature in addition to the fees of \$1,498.89 paid to the regular council for drawing up the contract.

EFFICIENCY OF MUNICIPAL OPERATION.

Whatever weakens or corrupts city government in its admitted duties of protecting the health, property, life and morals of its citizens, also weakens or corrupts it in operating public utilities or in regulating the private operation of those utilities. We cannot separate the question of municipal or private operation from the question of honest and efficient city government in every other department. The municipal corporation is a unit, and the supply of either water, gas, electricity, or transportation is only a single department of its work, and is good or bad to the same extent that the other departments of police, fire, health, parks and taxes are good or bad. When we investigate the politics and labor of these four public utilities we are investigating the whole question of municipal government. If the conditions are such that the city does not operate or regulate these utilities satisfactorily, we find that it does not do anything else satisfactorily. This fact is abundantly demonstrated when we take up one by one the several factors that go to make up the total political life of a city.

First is the suffrage. In all of the northern cities of the United States the suffrage is on the universal manhood basis. In the southern cities it is restricted by education, or poll tax requirements, and in British cities by tenant, lodger and household limitations. These restrictions bear most heavily on the wage earning classes, amounting to the exclusion of one-fourth to two-fifths of the wage earners. But the classes excluded are the casual and irregular laborers, the pauperized and indifferent workers, the hoodlum and hooligan elements. These are mainly the unorganized laborers, so that in England the trade unions have the field to themselves more than they have in the United States for entering upon a political movement. They are not compelled to make alliances with political bosses who know how to get these unorganized voters. In two northern cities, Indianapolis and Syracuse, definite information was obtained of bribery of the voters. In Indianapolis the bribable voters are largely the colored element of the town and in Syracuse the hoodlum, immigrant and colored element of the down town precincts. Among these voters a large part of the campaign contributions is distributed.

Next to the suffrage are the qualifications of the councillors, aldermen and city officials. In the British cities only the councillors are elected, one each year, holding three years for each ward. The councillors elect the aldermen and the city officials. Most important of all the councillors and aldermen are not required to live in the wards they represent and many of them live in the suburbs. One-half to four-fifths of the councillors and aldermen live outside the wards they represent and the proportion is strikingly larger in the working class wards which elect two-thirds to nine-tenths of their councillors from outside. Many inquiries were made as to the reasons on the part of voters, for this indifference as to the place of residence of their candidates, and the explanation that seems adequate is the absence of campaign and corruption funds and the inability of councillors to find jobs for their constituents. The councillor in Glasgow who is most active in pressing for jobs in the municipal service, lives in the ward which he represents, among constituents in need of employment. Furthermore, councillors and aldermen are unsalaried. This freedom of choice makes it possible to elect both the leading business men and the leading labor men to govern the city. Not only do we find eminent bankers, financiers and employers of labor in the councils, but we find the secretaries and officials of trade unions, most of them living outside the wards they represent. The absence of such leaders and truly representative men from American city councils is the most discouraging fact brought to our attention. We have not found any of the leading business men corresponding to those in British cities, the largest delegation of wage earners which we found was in the city of Wheeling, where they number fourteen, but not one of them was an official or a representative of a trade union, although the unions are stronger in Wheeling than in the other places visited. There the wage earning councillors were largely the employees of corporations whose owners were interested in the public utility corporations. Their campaign expenses were paid from those sources and their successful qualities were those of a good "mixer" with the voters and obedience to their employers in casting their votes as councilmen. In other cities not provided with the direct primary system of nominations there were practically no wage earners in the council.

In American cities the form of organization has been found to be most complicated. Authority and responsibility are scattered here and there in a mayor, a commission, a superintendent, a council, a committee of the council or even two committees, sometimes a joint com-

mittee of two branches of the council, a civil service commission, and so on. The finances and accounts of municipal undertakings are mixed with those of other departments. Scarcely any system that we have investigated would for a moment be recognized as satisfactory for an effective business management. The voters are unable to tell who is responsible or what exactly are the financial results. The one pre-eminent advantage of private operation is centralized control by one man, subject to a board of directors. This is also the form of organization of the British cities, where a committee of the council takes the place of the Board of Directors and the manager selected by the committee holds his position not for a fixed term but permanently or until removed. The American system most nearly corresponding is the commission system of South Norwalk and Detroit, which permits the selection of men from any part of the city and retains a number of them when others drop out.

The foregoing statements refer only to the legal or formal organization of British and American cities. The real political influences behind this formal organization are found in the conflicting interests of the voters who elect or control the city officials. In both countries the interests that are most important in deciding the results are those of the saloon keepers, real estate owners, political parties, trade unions, municipal employees, business classes, contractors and franchise corporations.

In both countries the saloons known in England as the "public house" or "pub," are regulated by the municipal council. This compels them in self-protection to take a part in politics. In some places like Glasgow their candidates make a pretense of standing for working men and they appeal to the labor vote in support of labor measures in the council. In other places like Liverpool the large brewery interests enter the field as capitalists and elect their partners to the council. In American cities the saloon interest is an important wheel of the political machine. In any case their candidates are elected not for the sake of efficient government but really in order to weaken the government that endeavors to regulate their private business.

Much less evidence was found of real estate dealers and speculators in British cities than in American cities. Owing, perhaps, to the system of landed property and the jealousy of the landed interest, real estate speculation is very quiet and subdued in British cities. The councils outside London are almost exclusively of the commercial, manufacturing, professional and labor classes. The purchase and sale of sites either by a council or by a company and the selection of routes are so jealously controlled by the landed interest entrenched in the House of Lords

that land speculation in connection with public utilities does not greatly influence the local councils. In all of the cities visited in Great Britain, except Glasgow and London, it was found that National political parties managed the municipal elections. The exception in Glasgow is mainly owing to the fact that there the Liberal party is so overwhelming that the Tories have no chance. Even the committees that managed the municipal undertakings are selected so that the dominant party of the council has majorities. In two places, however, Leicester and Birmingham, an eminent financier of the opposite party is elected to the head of a finance committee. Party policies in itself is not a barrier to successful municipal operation.

The part taken by the working classes in the election of councillors in England is divided into two stages. The few labor members elected ten to twenty years ago came in as members of the Liberal party and they retained their allegiance. They are first Liberals and secondarily trade unionists. The second stage is that of the labor party of the past five years in which the trade unions have joined with one wing of the socialists. The object of the Labor party has been that of getting legislation to protect the funds of trade unions from attachment by the courts. It has, however, organized local branches for municipal elections. Much the largest number of candidates put up by the Labor party are the salaried officials of the unions who if elected retain their union position. They are not usually "organizers" or "agitators," for the British unions do not have such salaried positions, but they are the official secretaries who are at the same time the experienced negotiators with employers. A much smaller class of so-called "Labor Councillors" are the socialists, who are generally small merchants, employers or professional men with a program more radical than that of the trade unionists. Finally there were found a half dozen political adventurers of the "fakir" type, not nominated by the Labor party, but taken up by the Liberals-Tories, or public house interest, to draw off the vote of the Labor party.

In general, while some criticism was heard from aged councillors or from old-line trade union liberals, to the effect that the new labor movement was deterring the character of the councils, yet the criticism was confined to the lack of business and financial capacity to the inability to take "broad" view of municipal business, and to the efforts to find municipal work for applicants. With the exception of the half dozen adventurers no criticism is made of their integrity or earnestness and sincerity of purpose in urging the cause they advocate; while in the case of the trade union officials there

was a general agreement on the part of all classes that they brought a kind of intelligence and a point of view that was needed in the council's deliberation as a large employer of labor.

ORGANIZATIONS OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES.

The increase in municipal ownership in Great Britain has of course brought an increase in the number of municipal employees and this has caused apprehension in certain quarters. Generally the chief officers of the municipal enterprises take the ground that they and other employees should not vote in municipal elections and they openly set that example to their subordinates. Some of them go even so far as to advocate the disfranchisement of municipal employees in municipal elections. This has also been advocated by some of the councillors. However, such a proposition is no longer seriously considered. If the vote of municipal employees is a menace the remedy must be looked for in directions other than disfranchisement. It goes without proof that such a remedy is needed for municipal employees sooner or later cast their votes for candidates who promise or have secured a betterment of their condition, regardless of its effect on the enterprise as a whole. Omitting disfranchisement, there are two directions in which such a remedy can be found, first a limit to be set beyond which municipalization shall not go, and second, the attitude of the public and especially of the workmen in private employment.

Although there are doctrinaire and socialistic elements that set no limit to public ownership the overwhelming sentiment of those now in control of the municipal councils places a limit at the point already reached by cities like Glasgow, Manchester and Leicester. With this practical agreement there is no prospect that the number of municipal employees will be materially increased beyond the proportion reached in Glasgow, where their voting strength is possibly one-sixteenth of the total. The total number employed by the London county council and the London borough councils is about one-fourteenth of the registered voters.

The natural tendency of municipal employees to better their own condition by use of their political strength is seen in the growth of the Municipal Employees' association. This is a spurious form of trade unionism which has sprung up with the growth of municipalization, and nothing of its kind has been found among American unions. It has gained affiliation with other unions in the Trades Union Congress and in local trades councils. Its platform is simple enough; to prohibit strikes, to oppose councillors at the polls if they stand in the way of granting its demands and to call on other unions for help in the elections. Its de-

mands are in excess of anything that other unions have been able to secure from private employers or even from municipal corporations. It invites into membership all employees of municipalities, and since they are nearly all eligible to other unions, evidently the aim of this organization is to separate a privileged class of workmen, and to do this through the political power of those whom they abandoned. It weakens other unions while building on their support. With even a minimum of intelligence in the other unions such a parasitic union would be repudiated. Such has been the fate of the Municipal Employees' association.

As long as its membership was small the consequences of its policy were not observed, and its demands received the uncritical assent of others in the general approval of all efforts to raise wages. But with its rapid growth during the past two years, the unions of unskilled workmen, who suffered first from its competition for members, brought their protest to the Trade Unions Congress in 1906, and that body, after careful deliberation, repudiated the municipal employees association and all similar organizations of public employees by the practically unanimous vote of one million one hundred ninety-six thousand to forty-two thousand. It is thus promptly settled before this organization had reached 15,000 members throughout Great Britain that the Trade Union World is clearly opposed, both in sentiment and self-interest, to the creation of a privileged class of municipal employees. As far as the regular trade unions are concerned the principle of trade union wages rising and falling in municipal employment the same as in private employment is accepted in its full significance. Without the support of the regular unions the strength of the municipal employees association has disappeared. It was a temporary phase of the rapid increase of municipal ownership.

Our investigations have shown that the proper method of dealing with employees is the most difficult and critical problem of municipal ownership. The appointment, promotion and dismissal of employees and the wages to be paid offer peculiar opportunities for political and personal influence inconsistent with efficiency. Civil service reform, so called, has been found in its highest perfection in the city of Chicago, but it is evident by comparison with the less perfect device in Syracuse that its integrity depends on the political influences that control the mayor and the heads of departments. If the head of the department is independent of politics, as shown in Cleveland, Detroit and South Norwalk, the civil service commission is not needed. The Chicago system is a temporary bulwark built around the departments until such time as the chief

officer himself can also be protected from political selection. This is the case in British cities where the idea of a civil service commission is unknown. But even there, especially in the Sheffield tramways, appointments have been made on recommendations of councillors. The experience of Glasgow is instructive. Fifteen years ago the practice of hiring employees on the recommendation of councillors was universal in all departments. But with the growth of municipal ownership it has almost disappeared. This is partly because several thorough investigations of alleged favoritism have been made by the council; partly because public spirited business men have exposed the evil, have made it clear to the voters and have been elected to the council on the issue of driving out favoritism, and partly because the adoption of the minimum wage policy of the labor members has stopped the practice of councillors unloading and pensioning their old employees on the municipal pay-roll. The only remnant of the practice discovered after a thorough investigation in Glasgow was in the unskilled work of the tramways and this came about through the effort of that department during the industrial depression of 1905-06 to aid the city government in finding work for the unemployed. The pressure for employment during the depression was enormous and all managers were besieged by hundreds of applicants. A card of introduction from a councillor secures at least the privilege of filling out an application blank and this amounts to a limited preference over those who do not have such cards, but the managers follow up the application by a thorough examination before making appointments. In other places all charges of favoritism were carefully investigated and they were found to be baseless except in the case of motormen and conductors at Sheffield. These are selected on the recommendation of councillors. The Manchester tramway committee, at the beginning of its organization, recognizing the possible evil, adopted a rule instructing their manager not only not to pay attention to letters from councillors but to give preference to applicants who have no such recommendations.

Our investigations have shown that the strongest safeguard for a manager against the pressure of outside recommendations is the recognition of organized labor within his department. Wherever we have found a class of employees organized and dealt with as such through their representatives we have found those positions exempt from politics. This follows from the nature of labor organization which cannot survive if individuals are given preference on political, religious, personal or any other grounds than the character of the work they do.

Even in the politically honeycombed municipal undertaking of Allegheny the union of Electrical Workers stopped the practice of paying assessments by its members for political campaigns. The success of the civil service system of Chicago is owing more than anything else to the fact that organized labor has one of the three members on each examining board. The manager of the Manchester tramways ascribes his freedom from interference by individual councillors to his recognition of the union that holds 90 per cent of his motormen and conductors.

PRIVATE COMPANIES AND MUNICIPAL COUNCILS.

The foregoing is a review of several interests which have been discovered as tending to weaken the efficiency and integrity of municipalities in the operation or regulation of monopolies, together with the factors that tend to correct these evil tendencies. In inquiring into the part played by all of them, including saloon keepers, real estate speculators, party politicians and municipal employees, the most impressive fact in Great Britain is the absence of any political "Machine" which could bring them together and line them up under a centralized control. Whatever corrupting and incapacitating tendencies there may be in these several interests that come into conflict with good administration each works by itself and there is no permanent interest or class of manipulators which thrives by marshalling them together in a perpetual onslaught and undermining of the city government. Public spirited and independent citizens are not compelled to enter into bargains nor to make promises to a political organization, which would disgust them with a position on the Town Council. This absence of a powerful machine is mainly due to the fact that there are no great financial bargains at stake, such as municipal contracts or franchises, whose owners have a direct interest in breaking down city government. None of the menacing factors above mentioned is large enough and all of them combined cannot gain enough to warrant them in making large contributions to an expensive organization for the control of elections and appointments. The brewery interests is practically the only interest of financial importance whose profits can be menaced by acts of the council, but the menace to it is based on moral and not financial grounds. In resisting this menace it does not directly attack the business integrity of the council but, more important, there is no opportunity for it to make an alliance with contractors and franchise speculators who could increase their profits and make sharper bargains with the city if the councillors were weak or corrupt or under the control of a machine which

they must support. The absence of powerful financial opponents of good government leaves the way open for business men to enter the councils and to attack abuses or defend the interests of the city without risking their private business or antagonizing their social circle. The eminent bankers, financiers and merchants who serve the cities as aldermen on the finance committees are free to do so because neither they nor their clients or business associates are interested in stocks which might be depreciated if they helped the city to drive a good bargain. These men are often the directors in large manufacturing, railway and other private companies. Councillors and aldermen on the gas, water, electricity and tramways committees, are even stockholders and directors in private gas and water companies of other towns. It would be impossible for such men to act conscientiously on the great board of municipal directors and to give the town the same kind of service as they give to their private companies if they or their business associates were interested in companies which had business relations with the Council. Neither could the medium and smaller business men and employers afford to accept positions on the Councils and take the independent stand they do, if the bankers and large business men on whom they depend for credits and sales were interested in the stocks of franchise companies. With these great antagonistic interests out of the way the business men of the town find not only that their private business is not menaced but that the conditions of all private business are greatly improved, if they lend their abilities to the improvement of municipal business. The time which they take from their private affairs is often not even a business sacrifice. The honor and distinction of public service on the Council is really an advertising asset in their private business. It would be a liability if they were called upon to antagonize large financial interests.

I do not hold that the contrast in American cities gives evidence that the private corporations which we have investigated have taken the initiative in corrupting and weakening the municipal councils. The initiative has just as often come from corrupt officials who "hold up" the corporations. The real question is not Who is to blame, or is it blackmail, or is it bribery? But the real question is What is the situation that compels officials, campaign committees and corporations to resort to blackmail and bribery? Plainly by comparison of American and British cities, the answer is found in the enormous profits at stake on municipal elections.

It is the absence of a political machine and its financial contributions that also makes possible the election in British

cities of remarkable groups of labor councillors. With but few exceptions the labor members are representative of the best elements of the trade unions. Although they lack the financial experience of business men they contribute a valuable knowledge of labor conditions on which successful management of municipal undertakings depends. Men of their integrity and earnestness have the opportunity to come forward because the trade unions are not undermined nor their leaders bribed by the paid agents of a political machine. And the financial interests that would profit by the election of weak or dishonest labor candidates are not powerful enough to subsidize the astute agents needed by the machine for the purpose.

In contrast with this situation appears in two of the places visited where private companies operate public utilities. The municipal council of New Castle-on-Tyne is decidedly inferior in quality and ability to others, and two of the leading financiers on the council declared that their only reason for remaining in the position is the election which the council gives them as corporation representatives on the Tyne Improvement Commission. The presence of private gas, electricity and water companies, with their representatives in the council, prevents the leading business men from interesting themselves in the success of the municipal government, while an equivocal class of labor agitators takes advantage of the situation to get elected to the council. Sheffield also, with its influential gas company, is the only town visited where the employees in the Tramway and street departments are appointed through the influence of councillors. In that town there is a peculiar inducement for the eminent business men in charge of the gas company to look with approval on the election of inferior councillors, because the council elects three of its members as directors of the company. The strength of the company is seen in the incompetency of these municipal directors, who are kept in ignorance of essential details in its affairs. With councillors of this inferior type and with the indifference of business men to the management of municipal affairs, the result is seen in the absence of any protest against practices which are undermining the municipal undertakings.

Certain effects of the municipal ownership movement in Great Britain on the private companies are evident. The Sheffield company, under the far-seeing management of Sir Frederick Mappin, has directed its policy for many years with the distinct purpose of meeting the arguments for municipal ownership. To avoid agitation it has refrained from going to parliament for permission to increase its capital stock. Consequently

it has distributed its large surplus profits in the form of reduced prices for gas and betterments to its plant. Most instructive of all is the attitude of the companies toward their employees. With the sentiment of municipal ownership ready to explode the companies cannot afford to risk a strike. The New Castle Gas Company has met this situation by a willing recognition of the Gas Workers' Union, and by a resort to arbitration through which wages have been materially raised. The South Metropolitan Company has developed its co-partnership scheme with astonishing shrewdness and careful attention to details so that every disaffected workman is silent or dismissed. The Sheffield company, although its president has openly attacked and wrecked trade unions in his private business, contented itself with gradually undermining the Gas Workers' Union, through the payment of wages and bonuses superior to those paid by other private employers of the district, and even in the case of unskilled labor, superior to those paid by the corporation of Sheffield.

TRADE UNIONS AND WAGES.

The influence of wage earners through their unions upon the conditions of municipal employment in the United States has been complicated through the presence and activity of practical politicians. In the municipal enterprises investigated, except South Norwalk and Richmond, the eight hour day has been established for the past ten or fifteen years for all employees, whereas in the private companies the hours are longer or have more recently been reduced for a portion, but not all of their employees in the most skilled branches of the work. This advantage in municipal undertakings has been brought about, not by a definite labor party, but by the influence of wage earners as voters upon the municipal officials.

A curious contrast, however, presents itself in the wages paid by contractors of municipal work. While the larger cities in their own employment reduce the hours several years before similar reductions were made by British municipalities, yet unlike the British municipalities, provision was not made requiring contractors on municipal works to observe the hours and wages paid by the municipalities themselves. It has only been within the past five or six years that a definite movement was undertaken by the wage earning element to extend these provisions to contractors, and this, on account of adverse decisions of the courts led to the adoption in New York of a constitutional amendment in 1905 stipulating that the prevailing rate of wages should be paid by contractors on the work of the state or its subdivisions. This clause has recently been adopted by the

city of Chicago. The hand of the politician is seen in the omission of the contractors from the requirement respecting wages and hours since by this device he was able to win both the wage earners and contractors to his support, but with the more extensive organization of wage earners and their independence of the politicians the contractors are placed on the same basis as the municipality.

In only one case investigated in the United States is there a formal trade agreement between the union and a municipal department, namely, that of the electricity department of Chicago, but since permanent appointments in that and other departments of Chicago are controlled by the civil service commission, the effect of this agreement is to control only the temporary or sixty day appointments. The unions, however, are recognized by the civil service commission to the extent that an officer of the union concern is appointed as one of the three members of the examining board which passes upon applicants for municipal positions. The other two members are employers or technical experts selected by the commission outside the municipal service. The consequence of this arrangement is that the unions are satisfied that the civil service law is honestly administered and at the same time the non-union workmen are protected against discrimination. In Great Britain there are two undertakings, Birmingham Gas and Manchester Tramways, which have trade agreements with unions, and in all other places the same result is reached by the provision requiring the payment of trade union rates of wages.

The municipal undertakings in both countries are necessarily "open shop," in the sense that employment is—open both to union and non-union men. In the case of the more skilled trades this usually results in the employment of union men, depending partly on the attitude of the manager. This attitude is favorable to the unions in all of the British municipalities except Liverpool and is favorable in the American cities of Cleveland, Detroit and Chicago. In these places the managers consult the union officers in arranging wages, hours and conditions of work. The three American places mentioned are those where the political machine, supported by the contractors and franchise corporation, has been eliminated from the control of the city government by a popular revolt against the corporations. But in Allegheny, Syracuse, Wheeling and Indianapolis, where a combination of politicians and franchise corporations is in control of the municipal government, the attitude is distinctly hostile to the unions, and appointments and promotions are made with reference to the political adherence of the employees.

The exception of this statement is found in the Allegheny Electric undertaking to the extent that the Electrical Workers' Union has organized the linemen. In this case appointments are not made on political grounds and the linemen do not pay the assessments required of other employees. Of the private companies investigated in Great Britain, all of them except one were hostile to union labor. The exception is the New Castle gas, which has had open shop agreements with the Gas Workers' Union during seventeen years. In the United States all of the private companies are hostile to union labor. Most of the companies in both countries protested that they were not hostile, while only one asserted positively that it was, but the acts and policies of all as shown by our investigations demonstrate their hostility. The situation respecting each branch of organized labor in both classes of undertaking is briefly as follows:

The Electrical Workers' Union throughout the United States numbers about 21,000. Its principle strength is found among the wiremen, who are associated with other skilled trades in the construction of building among shop men in manufacturing establishments and among linemen employed by telephone companies. The organization has a much smaller proportion of the employees of electric light and street railway companies. It has no organization among private companies coming under our investigation. It has an organization in the Detroit Electric company which we use for comparison with the Detroit municipal undertaking. The presence of the municipal enterprise, with its eight hour day and its recognition of the Electrical Workers' Union during the past eight years has served as a standard by which this private company has endeavored to guide itself and to put itself in as favorable a position before the public as the municipal undertaking. The company indeed has created a semipension position for the president of the Electrical Workers' Local Union, giving him leave of absence to use his influence among aldermen and the working people of the town at times when the council has before it an ordinance for the regulation or reduction of rates or services. The situation is different in Chicago, where a local union of the same organization has been defeated in strikes by the electricity companies, and where the union is able to maintain its scale of wages and secure employment with those companies only in the branches of work connected with the building trades, where it has the support of other trade unions in the town. Even in that exceptional circumstance the union has been compelled to allow its men to work at fifteen cents a day less than the scale paid by the municipality

and by other fair employers. The organization is not represented in the municipal enterprise of South Norwalk, although the local union has officially declared that undertaking to be a "fair shot" and permit its members to work alongside municipal employees who are not members.

The situation of the Electrical Workers' Union in Great Britain is somewhat similar to that of the corresponding organization in this country. It, however, has been handicapped by the fact that the powerful association of Amalgamated Engineers (machinists) has always claimed Electrical Workers as coming under its jurisdiction. Four other unions also claim jurisdiction over the Electrical Workers. The Amalgamated Engineers are interested more in the organization of fitters, turners and blacksmiths than in the organization of Electrical Workers, pattern makers, and other smaller elements claimed by them. It has only been in the past year that the Amalgamated Engineers recognized the Electrical Trade Union and consented to their admission on equal terms in the Engineering and Shipbuilding Federation. One consequence of a conflict with other unions is that the Electrical Workers' Union in that country has not been aggressive and has limited itself practically to municipal employees and the employees of contractors on municipal work. It has only recently begun organizing the shop men in manufacturing establishment, but has no men with any of the private companies investigated.

The stationery firemen's organization includes about thirteen thousand members throughout the United States, of whom four thousand are in New York City. This organization is not strongly represented in any of the places investigated except Chicago and Cleveland, where it includes all of the firemen in the municipal electric and water works. The union was defeated in a strike by the Commonwealth and Edison companies of Chicago and has no representation now in their employment. It has members in the municipal undertaking of Detroit, but not in Syracuse, Richmond or Wheeling, nor in any of the private undertakings. This union claims jurisdiction over stokers in gas works, but none of its members were found either in the municipal or the private gas undertakings.

The National Union of Stationery Engineers with its 17,500 members, has members in the municipal undertakings of Cleveland, Detroit, Allegheny, Wheeling and Chicago, but not in Richmond, nor in any of the private undertakings.

The firemen and engineers of Great Britain are claimed by a half dozen organizations, all of them weak and conflicting and none of them represented in

any of the establishments visited. Where the Gas Workers' Union is recognized it includes the firemen.

There is one organization, that of Street Railway Employees, for which comparisons between private and public employment cannot be made in the United States, since there are no municipal undertakings of that character. The British organization which nominally includes teamsters and drivers as well as motormen and conductors, is practically confined to the latter, and for the last six years has increased its membership solely among motormen and conductors. Its membership consists of 9,500 in municipal employment and fifteen hundred in private employment, a ratio of one-half of the motormen and conductors employed by all municipalities and one-third of those employed by all companies. The three private companies investigated, namely, London, Norwalk and Dublin, have taken a decided stand against the organization, have discharged those of its employees who became members and have required bonds or deposits which are forfeited if the men quit without giving one or two weeks' notice. Two of the municipalities, London and Manchester, are organized in this association to the extent of nine-tenths of their employees, while in two other establishments investigated, Liverpool and Glasgow, the municipalities have established benefit associations, and in Liverpool the union was disrupted by embezzlement on the part of its officers. The wages are so much in advance of what these employees receive from the former private companies that the union does not appear to offer them any particular advantages if they should join them. In the United States where the street railway employees are all in the service of private companies, the membership of the union paying dues throughout the country was thirty-six thousand in 1902, out of a total number of employees eligible to membership in that year of one hundred and thirty-four thousand. This was 27 per cent of the employees of those companies, or something less than the proportion organized in the private companies of Great Britain and about half of the proportion which the British Union has of the municipal employees.

In none of the American enterprises investigated were the common laborers organized. In the municipal undertakings they are paid higher wages and have been given shorter hours than in the case of private employees of the same locality. They are also in all cases citizens of the United States, and residents of the locality. The common labor of the private companies, except in Indianapolis and the southern cities, where they are colored, is composed largely of emigrants,

and no attention is paid as to whether they have secured citizenship papers or not.

MINIMUM WAGES.

In the matter of wages and hours the principal effect of municipal ownership is seen in the unskilled and unorganized labor in both countries, in that of street railway employees in Great Britain and in that of gas workers and electrical workers in the United States.

The policy of all of the British municipalities is to place the minimum wages of common labor at the level paid by the best private employers of similar work. This is about 15 to 40 per cent higher than other private wages for the same class of labor in the same locality. The greatest difference, that of Leicester, was the result of arbitration, brought about through the organization of common labor in that town. In this case those private employers who recognized the union paid the same wages as the municipality. In one locality, Sheffield, the minimum wage paid by the gas company is higher than the minimum paid by the municipality and other private employers, and the gas company at New Castle pays its organized common labor the same minimum as the municipality, but all of the electric and tramway companies pay less for common labor doing the same kind of work than the municipalities in which they are located.

In the United States the minimum paid for common labor by the private companies is in all cases, except Atlanta, lower than that of the municipality, and the minimum paid for common labor by municipal undertakings is higher than that of private companies of the same locality. This correspondence runs as follows: Syracuse, municipal, \$1.50 for eight hours; private, \$1.50 for ten hours. Detroit, municipal, \$1.75 for eight hours; private, \$1.80 for nine hours. Allegheny, municipal, \$2.75 for eight hours; private, \$1.75 for ten hours. Wheeling, municipal, \$1.85 for eight and nine hours; private, \$1.85 for ten hours. Cleveland, municipal, \$1.76 for eight hours; private, \$1.75 for ten hours. Indianapolis, municipal, \$1.60 for eight hours; private, \$1.50 for ten hours. Chicago, municipal, \$2.00 for eight hours; private, \$1.75 for ten hours. New Haven, municipal, \$1.50 for eight hours; private, \$1.50 for nine hours. Richmond, municipal, \$2.00 for nine hours; private, \$1.20 for nine hours. Atlanta, municipal and private, \$1.00 for ten hours.

These are the minimum rates and not the average rates nor the highest rates paid for unskilled and usually unorganized labor. In this respect the municipalities, both in Great Britain and the United States, have adopted the trade union principle of the minimum wage for that class of labor which ordinarily

has no union, and all of the familiar arguments for and against the theory of the minimum wage as applied to trade unions can be brought forward as applied to the municipalities. Against the minimum wage theory is the criticism that it shuts out from employment the old men who are not worth the minimum wage, and my colleague, though speaking ostensibly for the trade unions, nevertheless by condemning this result in municipal employment condemns the fundamental principle of trade unionism. The private companies investigated, which pay less than the minimum, of course justify it on the ground that the Italians, negroes and others employed are not worth the minimum, but the trade unionist usually tells them that by paying the minimum they would attract better workmen. So far as our investigations have gone, they show that in municipal employment this has been the case. Since the adoption of the minimum wage policy, enforced sometimes by civil service rules, the quality, character, physique and efficiency of the common laborer employed by municipalities has been greatly improved and municipal employment has ceased to be looked upon as an old age pension for laborers worn out in private employment. This is a hardship to individuals to the same extent that trade unionism is a hardship to individuals. But from the standpoint of the municipality it is again because more competent laborers are employed and municipal employment is clearly distinguished from the municipal charity. The aged and inefficient laborers discharged from private employment and unable to secure municipal employment must of course be supported from the public treasury and it is a significant fact that the movement for old age pensions as a substitute for the poor house in Great Britain has been strengthened by the minimum wage policy of the past ten years which has relieved municipal employment of its poor house features.

In all of the occupations where organized labor was found the policy of all the municipalities investigated, except South Norwalk, is that of paying the trade union rate. This is also of course a minimum rate and the conditions are the same as those governing private employers of the locality who recognize the union.

A few cases of individuals were found where the city was paying individuals less than the unions, but these were cases in which the union had granted a permit to work below the scale on account of old age or were cases over which a dispute as to the character of the work was in process of adjustment or where as in Chicago wages in private employment had been advanced after the municipal budget had been voted and the latter could not under the law be changed until the next

fiscal year. We have not found any instance except that of the municipal employees' association in Great Britain, above mentioned, where the unions have demanded higher minimum wages of the municipality than those paid by union employers. Individuals, both in municipal and private undertakings, get higher wages than the union minimum.

Outside of the ranks of unskilled labor in Great Britain the principal difference between wages in municipal and private undertakings is found in the case of the motormen and conductors on tramways. This has been brought about by a reduction in the hours of labor in municipal employment so that in two municipal undertakings, Glasgow and Manchester, the hours have been reduced to fifty-four per week and in two others the Liverpool and London County Council to 60 per week, while in the three private undertakings the hours are 70 per week. Since the wages have not been decreased, the result is seen in the rate of pay per hour. Taking the London County Council tramways and the London United tramways, where comparison can fairly be made, since both are in the same town, the wages for motormen are 4.2 per cent and for conductors 30 per cent higher on the municipal than on the private system. Outside London, considering the local level of wages, the municipal undertakings pay higher wages than the private undertakings. This difference is not owing to the change from horse to electrical traction, since the wages on the municipal undertakings were advanced when the municipality secured possession, which, in the case of Glasgow, was six years before electrical traction was adopted. The private companies, although paying less than the municipalities, have also advanced their rates of pay with the introduction of electrical traction. The same is true of the traction companies in the United States, although our investigations have not included a survey of these companies and we are unable to make a statistical comparison.

The practice of my colleague in going outside the matters actually investigated by us and introducing criticisms that we have not investigated may be judged by his quotation from a socialistic critic of the Glasgow tramways, a class of critics whom in general he loses no opportunity to discredit. Since these criticisms have been introduced after our report was handed in, I have had no opportunity of running them down, as was thoroughly done in other cases, and can only quote from a reply to my inquiries received from the general manager under date of May 20, 1907. He says: "In regard to the first point we never ask an applicant for a situation for a written 'character;' we simply wish to know from him what

situations he has been in during the past five years and the names of his employers during that period. On leaving the service he is informed that any communications regarding him will be promptly attended to."

"The question of conductors paying the full value for lost tickets is fully dealt with in the report sent you." The report referred to is one made under date of February 20, 1907, by the general manager to the tramways committee, in answering a petition to the municipal employees' association and includes the following paragraph:

"The conductors desire that when any of the tickets entrusted to them go astray they should only be held responsible for the cost of printing the lost tickets and not for their face value. I cannot find that any conductor during the past year has been charged the face value of lost tickets who has come forward with an explanation. We must, however, be very strict in the matter of lost tickets because these tickets are worth their face value both to the department and to the conductors. They must therefore be regarded practically as cash. Each case is considered on its merit and I am perfectly satisfied that the conductors have nothing to complain of in the way they are treated in regard to lost tickets."

The general manager continues: "I never heard it suggested that in our service men are supposed to report each other for neglect of duty."

"In regard to the wearing of uniform we would not allow a man to take up duty unless he were properly dressed."

"The punching of the ticket in the wrong place is a very serious offense."

Respecting the statement that 1,085 men on the Glasgow tramways "have less than three years' standing as employees," the essential fact is omitted that nearly one-half of these are filling new positions created during the past three years by extension of the system.

In the case of gas workers employed by the municipalities and private companies in Great Britain it has been found that with the exception of the South Metropolitan company there is not much difference between the wages paid in the two classes of undertakings. The differences observed in this occupation grow out of the amount of work required of the stokers. On account of the severity of the work it is the practice both of the private companies and the municipal undertakings in the United States to require the stokers to work actually only one half of the number of hours for which they are paid, the other half being available for recreation. This is true also in three of the municipal undertakings in Great Britain, while in the fourth, Glasgow, the stokers work five hours out of the eight instead of four. In this respect

Glasgow is on the same basis, with the most favorable of the private companies, New Castle, where, on account of the presence of a strong labor organization, the stokers also are on the basis of five hours' work for eight hours' pay. In the other two private companies which have succeeded in destroying the labor organizations that formerly existed, the amount of work required of the men has been increased to a greater degree than the increase of wages. So severe was this hardship on the employees of the South Metropolitan company that in two of the stations they voted to accept the proposition of the company to return to the twelve hour day and to forego the advantages of the eight hour day which they had secured through their union in 1889. By increasing slightly the total amount of work in the twelve-hour shift they increased their total daily wages, but the cost of labor to the company is the same on the twelve-hour basis as it is in the other stations on the eight hour basis. Measuring their wages, however, by the hour, the men on the twelve-hour basis receive the lowest rates of pay of all the private and municipal undertakings. This twelve-hour system resulted from the smashing of the union and the overwork of the employees is approved in some quarters as a "genuine example of co-operation."

At the other extreme the least amount of work required of stokers is in the municipal undertakings at Manchester, and there the reduction in the amount of work has been criticised as indicating a detrimental influence of trade unions upon the municipal undertakings. A question of this kind must be decided according to the opinions of the investigators. Looking at the severity of the work it would be unwarranted to say that the stokers in the Manchester municipal undertaking are doing a smaller amount of work than should be fairly required of them. An important consequence of the policy of the Manchester municipality in its effort to avoid overworking the stokers is seen in its effort to greatly improve the equipment of the plant in order to reduce the amount of labor required, the net result being that the labor cost in Manchester is not greater than in other places.

In the United States the gas workers are on the twelve-hour day at Richmond and Atlanta, but in the municipal plant at Wheeling all employees have the eight hour day, while with the private companies at Philadelphia the shift men in the retort house were placed on the eight hour day when the company took possession. They had worked twelve hours under municipal ownership. The wages paid by the Richmond municipal plant, all of whose employees are white, are 90 per cent to 100 per cent higher than the

wages paid to negroes who do similar work in the Atlanta private undertaking and the wages paid to white mechanics and apprentices at Richmond are 30 per cent to one hundred and twenty per cent higher than those paid to the corresponding white employees by the Atlanta company. In one occupation, that of the bricklayer, the wages in the two places are the same.

In the electric industries of Great Britain outside of employment of unskilled labor there does not appear to be any material difference in the rates paid by the municipalities and the private companies taken as a whole. It was not possible to make an exact comparison on account of the differences in classification and the wide range of wages depending partly upon the size of the undertaker. Such differences as were found to exist between municipal and private undertakings might be explained upon the basis of the differences in the level of wages in the several localities.

In the United States in all cases except South Norwalk and Detroit, the wages paid by the municipal electric undertakings are materially higher than those paid by the private undertakings of the same localities. The widest difference is found in Allegheny and in Chicago. The only positions in which the private electrical companies of Chicago pay as high wages for similar work as the municipal undertaking is that of a small number of their wiremen who work alongside the organized building trades of the city. Their other wiremen doing the same work get less pay.

In the matter of "welfare work" or provision for the comfort, cleanliness and recreation of employees the best conditions were found in the works of the Commonwealth Electric company at Chicago, the municipal water works at Cleveland, the Philadelphia Gas works, the municipal gas at Leicester, the municipal trams at Glasgow and Liverpool and South Metropolitan Gas at London. The worse conditions were at Wheeling and at Richmond municipal gas and Sheffield private gas. In general, the building and works constructed during the past four or five years both in private and municipal undertakings show a great improvement over the older buildings and works in the provision for baths, lavatories, lunch and cooking rooms, recreation rooms and grounds. Taking the entire list of properties visited, the best under one form of ownership is equal by the best under the other form and so on down to the worst. The superior character of the municipal undertakings over private undertakings in Great Britain is partly owing to their more recent construction and the reverse is true in the United States.

In Great Britain, but not in the United States, were found systems of insurance thrift funds, sick, death and accident benefits, both in municipal and private undertakings. The most extensive and elaborate of these is that of the South Metropolitan company connected with its system of profit sharing and compulsory investment of profits in the company's stocks. The system is ingeniously contrived to destroy the Gas Workers' Union

by subjecting its employees to the conspiracy laws and to enable the company to "contract out" from the workmen's compensation, laws. The municipal gas works of Glasgow has copied the system so far as it relates to profit sharing and conspiracy, but not to workmen's compensation. All other municipal and private establishments pay accident benefits as required by this national legislation.

IN CONTRAST.

Being an Act for the Regulation of British Trades Deputies.

AT the present time, when attorneys of the trusts are making so much unnecessary noise about the relationship of organizations of labor to the legal status and in almost every effort setting forth labored opinions detrimental to them, the following action by the British Parliament on this subject in 1906 will be found interesting as well as pertinent reading:

British Trades Dispute Act. An Act to provide for the regulation of Trades Unions and Trades Disputes.

1. The following paragraph shall be added as a new paragraph after the first paragraph of section three of the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, 1875:

"An act done in pursuance of an agreement or combination by two or more persons shall, if done in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute, not be actionable unless the act, if done without such agreement or combination, would be actionable."

2. (1) It shall be lawful for one or more persons, acting on their own behalf or on behalf of a trade union or of an individual employer or firm in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute, to attend at or near a house or place where a person resides or works or carries on business or happens to be, if they so attend merely for the purpose of peacefully obtaining or communicating information, or of peacefully persuading any person to work or abstain from working.

(2) Section seven of the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, 1875, is hereby repealed from "attending at or near" to the end of the section.

3. An act done by a person in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute shall not be actionable on the ground only that it induces some other person to break a contract of employment or that it is an interference with the trade, business, or employment of some other person,

or with the right of some other person to dispose of his capital or his labor as he wills.

4. (1) An action against a trade union, whether of workmen or masters, or against any members or officials thereof on behalf of themselves and all other members of the trade union in respect of any tortious act alleged to have been committed by or on behalf of the trade union, shall not be entertained by any court.

(2) Nothing in this section shall affect the liability of the trustees of a trade union to be sued in the events provided for by the Trades Union Act, 1871, section nine, except in respect of any tortious act committed by or on behalf of the union in contemplation or in furtherance of a trade dispute.

5. (1) This Act may be cited as the Trades Disputes Act, 1906, and the Trade Union Acts, 1871 and 1876, and this Act may be cited together as the Trade Union Acts, 1871 to 1906.

(2) In this Act the expression, "trade union," has the same meaning as in the Trade Union Acts, 1871 and 1876, and shall include any combination as therein defined, notwithstanding that such combination may be the branch of a trade union.

(3) In this Act and in the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, 1875, the expression "trade dispute" means any dispute between employers and workmen, or between workmen and workmen, which is connected with the employment or non-employment or the terms of the employment, or with the conditions of labor, of any person, and the expression "workmen" means all persons employed in trade or industry, whether or not in the employment of the employer with whom a trade dispute arises; and, in section three of the last-mentioned Act, the words "between employers and workmen" shall be repealed.—The Granite Cutters' Journal.

A. F. OF L. CONVENTION CALL---AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR.

Headquarters, 423-425 G Street N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

September 19, 1908.

To All Affiliated Unions, Greeting:

You are hereby advised that, in pursuance to the Constitution of the American Federation of Labor, the Twenty-Eighth Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor will be held at Denver, Colorado, beginning 10 o'clock Monday morning, November 9, 1908, and will continue in session from day to day until the business of the convention has been completed.

REPRESENTATION.

Representation in the convention will be on the following basis: From National or International Unions, for less than 4,000 members, one delegate; 4,000 or more, two delegates; 8,000 or more, three delegates; 16,000 or more, four delegates; 32,000 or more, five delegates; 64,000 or more, six delegates; 128,000 or more, seven delegates, and so on; and from Central Bodies and State Federations, and from local trade-unions not having a National or International Union, and from Federal Labor Unions, one delegate.

Organizations to be entitled to representation must have obtained a certificate of affiliation (charter) at least one month prior to the convention; and no person will be recognized as a delegate who is not a member in good standing of the organization he is elected to represent.

Only bona fide wageworkers, who are not members of, or eligible to membership in other trade-unions, are eligible as delegates from Federal Labor Unions.

Delegates must be selected at least two weeks previous to the convention, and their names forwarded to the Secretary of the American Federation of Labor immediately after their election.

Delegates are not entitled to seats in the convention unless the tax of their organizations has been paid in full to September 30, 1908.

The importance of our organizations and our movement, the duty of the hour and for the future, demand that every organization entitled to representation shall send its full quota of delegates to the Denver convention, November 9, 1908.

Do not allow favoritism to influence you in selecting your delegates. Be fully represented.

Be represented by your ablest, best, most experienced, and faithful members.

CREDENTIALS.

Credentials in duplicate are forwarded to all affiliated unions. The original credentials must be given to the delegates-elect and the duplicate forwarded to the American Federation of Labor office, 423-425 G Street Northwest, Washington, D. C.

The Committee on Credentials will meet at the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor six days previous to the opening of the convention, and will report immediately upon the opening thereof at Denver; hence secretaries will observe the necessity of mailing the duplicate credentials of their respective delegates at the earliest possible moment to Washington, D. C.

GRIEVANCES.

Under the law no grievance can be considered by the convention that has been decided by a previous convention, except upon the recommendation of the Executive Council, nor will any grievance be considered where the parties thereto have not previously held conference and attempted to adjust the same themselves.

RAILROAD RATES.

The various Passenger Associations have been requested to grant a special rate. A special rate has been granted which is practically on a basis of two cents per mile. Full particulars relative to railroad rates will be mailed to each delegate as soon as his credential is received at American Federation of Labor headquarters.

HOTEL RATES.

Albany Hotel, \$1.00 to \$3.00 per day, European plan.

Adams Hotel, \$1.00 per day, European plan.

Adams Hotel, \$3.00 per day, American plan.

Markham Hotel, 75c and \$1.00 per day, European plan.

Savoy Hotel, \$1.50 to \$2.00 per day, European plan.

Reservation in any of the above hotels can be made by addressing the chairman of the Hotel Committee, R. G. Moser, care of Room 315, Appel Building, Denver, Colo. The committee is also prepared to make reservations in other hotels at rates ranging from 75 cents per day up.

Headquarters of the Executive Council will be at the Albany Hotel.

Delegates should notify chairman of the Arrangements Committee, R. G. Moser, care of Room 315, Appel Building, Denver, Colo., stating time of their contemplated arrival at Denver, and over which road they will travel.

If there be any further information regarding the convention, or the arrangements for the convenience of the delegates, it will be communicated in a later circular, or through the American Federationist.

SAMUEL GOMPERS,
President.

Attest:

FRANK MORRISON,
Secretary.

James Duncan, 1st V. P.
John Mitchell, 2d V. P.
James O'Connell, 3d V. P.
Max Morris, 4th V. P.
D. A. Hayes, 5th V. P.
Daniel J. Keefe, 6th V. P.
Wm. D. Huber, 7th V. P.
Jos. F. Valentine, 8th V. P.
John B. Lennon, Treasurer.

Executive Council, American Federation
of Labor.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 12, 1908.

Men of Labor, Lovers of Human Liberty:

You are believers in the form of government described by the immortal Lincoln as government of the people, for the people and by the people. You would not be true Americans if you were not. This form of government—the democratic form—is a government by law and is the direct opposite of—the despotic form—which is government by discretion. Government by injunction is government by discretion, in other words despotic. You would not willingly assist in destroying our present form of government in the United States, and I therefore assume that you would have the issue in this campaign stated plainly and simply in order that you may do your duty.

The facts are that the judiciary, induced by corporations and trusts and protected by the Republican party, is, step by step, destroying government by law and substituting therefor a government by judges, who determine what, in their opinion, is wrong; what, in their opinion, is evidence; who, in their opinion, is guilty; and what, in their opinion, the punishment shall be. It is sought to make of the judges irresponsible despots, and by controlling them using this despotism in the interest of corporate power.

In order to do this it was necessary to proceed secretly to prevent opposition becoming too strong; some strained "justification" for it had to be sought in the constitution of the United States. The constitution provides that judges shall have jurisdiction in law and equity, and by extending the jurisdiction of judges "sitting in equity" all safeguards erected to protect human liberty is swept aside.

Instead of the accuser proving the guilt of the accused, the accused is compelled to show cause why he should not be punished. The absolute power, in *specific* instances, of a judge sitting in chancery

(which is the real name for equity) is gradually extended over the several fields of human activity, and a revolution is perfected. We then have despotic government by the judiciary in place of government of, for and by the people.

This revolution has already progressed very far. It is depriving the workers of their rights as citizens, by forbidding the exercise of freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly and the right of petition, if, in the opinion of the judge, the exercise of these rights may work injury to the business of some corporation or trust. It is applicable to the worker today and will inevitably be made applicable to the business man at a later period.

The progress of this revolution must be stopped.

We must return to government by law in all instances where the revolution has been successful.

This virus and poison has not only attacked the judicial branch of the government, but has in several instances entered upon the legislative field, by making laws which may be enforced by equity process; that is, the judge is by law authorized to:

Disregard all accepted rules of procedure and of evidence, to

Dispense with jury trial and substitute instead of these safeguards of human liberty his own opinion of what is right.

It was with these serious thoughts in mind that labor's representatives submitted to the party in power—the Republican party—in 1906 labor's bill of grievances, and respectfully urged that necessary legislation be enacted. Nothing was done.

Injunction after injunction was issued, forbidding men to assist each other, to give information to each other, and to do in unison those things which it was the undisputed right of the individual to do for himself.

In the meantime, the dispute between the Hatters' Union and Mr. Loewe, of Danbury, was in progress from one court to another, until it reached the United States Supreme Court, where it was decided that:

Organizations of working men and working women, for mutual aid and assistance, are combinations in illegal restraint of trade under the so-called Sherman Anti-Trust law:

That any one injured thereby may recover three-fold damages from the organizations, and if they have not the means, then, from individual members thereof. Between this law, enforceable by equity process and the extension of the use of the writ of injunction, the individual freedom of the worker to combine with others for mutual aid and protection is swept away and his rights as a citizen disregarded and denied.

For all these steadily growing, dangerous tendencies there is but one remedy—legislation by the people through their proper representatives. Again, we appealed to Congress, and again our answer was a distinct and emphatic "NO."

We drafted and caused to be introduced in Congress specific bills to stay and remedy the evil, but to no purpose.

Labor was not only given an emphatic "NO," but it was coupled with a statement by candidate for vice president, Mr. Sherman, accepted and approved by the majority of Congress, that his party fully understood what it was doing and accepted all responsibility both for what it did and what it did not do.

It is no attack upon the judges to say that they are men with a fair average quality of human nature; that they are subject to the prejudices and passions of men. They cannot divest themselves of their humanity by putting on the judicial ermine any more than can the king divest himself of his by putting on the crown.

Despotic power under the ermine is as dangerous as despotic power under the crown. To stay its progress some remedy must be had, and we therefore appealed to the Republican convention at Chicago and were given the same answer in still more insulting language if that were possible. We asked for bread and they showed us a whip; and in order to be certain that the whip will be effectually used the Republican party nominated as its standard bearer, Mr. William H. Taft, the originator and specific champion of discretionary government, that is, government by injunction. In passing, I may say that his nomination, under the circumstances, was logical. It would have been impossible for the party to find a more effective representative of its policy.

Labor's representatives then went to the Democratic party. That party made labor's contention its own. It pledged its candidates for every office to those remedies which labor had already submitted to Congress. The standard bearer of the Democratic party, Mr. William J. Bryan, entered fully into the essence of this struggle and declared that the real issue in this campaign is: "Shall the people rule?"

The Republican party and its candidate stand for upholding and further extending into our country a despotic government vested in the judiciary.

The Democratic party and its candidate stand for government by law vested in the people.

As an American citizen, in view of these facts, I have no choice—I have only duty. Duty to preserve with my voice, pen and ballot, that form of government, for the preservation of which Lincoln said: "Men died at Gettysburg."

Human freedom and equality of all men before the law is the result of the struggle of the ages, and our holiest inheritance. This we must regain; this we must extend, so that it shall be a living, character-making, conduct governing principle in American life.

Labor has been and will be accused of partisanship, but in performing a solemn duty at this time in support of a political party labor does not become partisan to a political party, but partisan to a principle.

As the campaign progresses, accusations, misrepresentations of all conceivable kind will come thick and fast. In answer to them all, I have but to say that men who have given a whole life's energy to the great cause of labor and who, in all the years gone by, have been found faithful, honest and sincere are not likely to change their character all of a sudden. If we were desirous of either office or other emolument they could have been obtained with greater ease from the party in power.

I have said before and now say again, that there is no political office in the gift of the American people, elective or appointive, that I would, under any circumstances, accept. Not that such offices could be lightly put aside by an American citizen, but that I believe I can do more for the ideas that I cherish and the work in which I am engaged, either as an official or as a member in the rank and file of the labor movement, and the threats of politicians to "burn brush fires" behind me wherever I may go; to "create rebellion" in the labor movement against me and bring about my defeat for the Presidency of the Federation, can have no influence upon my mind and cannot alter my course. As workers and citizens we have our franchise, as citizens we must use it, to protect and extend equality of all men before the law and secure individual liberty for all men.

And now, fellow workers and friends of human liberty, labor calls upon you to be true to yourselves and to each other, to stand faithfully by our friends and elect them, oppose and defeat our enemies, whether they be candidates for President, for Congress or other offices, whether executive, legislative or judicial.

Sincerely and faithfully yours,

SAMUEL GOMPERS,
President American Federation of Labor.

COMPENSATION.

Mr. Powers—"Do you mean to say that you shopped all day and didn't get anything?"

Mrs. Powers—"Yes, but I know what everybody else got."—Philadelphia Telegraph.

AN ENTERPRISING UNION.

Printers' Organization Making Laudable Effort to Improve Skill of its Craftsmen.

Few questions have come more quickly under the public eye than has that of technical education. It is, of course, closely related to the labor question, and in the bitter controversy which seems inseparable from a discussion of such problems it has been charged that unions had not only destroyed the apprenticeship system, but were opposed to any method that would fill the void. This is denied by the unions, they maintaining that the decadence of the apprenticeship system is an incident of industrial progress—the specialization of the trades. They point to the efforts of trade unions abroad, where technical education is established, to prove the drift of the labor movement, and declare that they are not backward in supporting legitimate efforts of that nature. The unionists admit that they are opposed to forms of education that are a cloak under which the workers are exploited either by being discouraged by inefficient instruction or made more dependent on a certain employer by reason of the limited character of the courses. The advancement of the pupil must be of paramount importance in any educational scheme that will secure the support of the unions.

Partisans of labor organizations who are interested in the controversy direct attention to the venture of the Typographical Union—the oldest and most typical American union. That organization has endorsed trade educational projects and local unions have at various times established schools and classes, but now the central body has launched a comprehensive scheme. As it was imperative a large field should be covered, it being obviously impossible for any appreciable number of printers to go to one of even a score of central points to receive instruction, a correspondence course was decided on. It embraces thirty-seven lessons, which begin at the unit of the printed page—the individual letter. The student is not only informed as to the history and uses of letters, but is given instruction in the formation of them. From that he is taken through a course of design and given instruction in the harmony of color. Then comes a thorough drilling in advertisement and job composition, imposition and other practical features, as well as information about platemaking and paper which will prove of great value to printers. The methods adopted differ from any heretofore employed in trade education in this

field. As a rule an apprentice has to rely on his powers of observation—see how others do their work, and copy it—or is told to do this or that, without explanation as to why he should do so. This dogmatic method makes memory work overtime, but does not stimulate thought and is therefore not as conducive to the development of originality as might be desired. The Union's course tells the "how" and the "why" of all the elements that enter into what we call "good printing." Having found a sound basis from which to reason, and his artistic sense being aroused, the student's mental powers will be excited and the germ of originality flourish despite the discouragements which inhere in specialized industries. This can not fail to produce a vastly improved quality of printing, which will result in an increased demand. In many cases the individual will benefit. The admittedly high standard of intelligence which prevails among printers is an assurance that with the elemental principles of design at their finger ends many of them will grow in knowledge and develop into specialists in graphic design and decorating. Not the least of the Union's desires is to counteract the tendency of the worker to fall into a narrow mental rut, which is a noticeable characteristic of modern methods of production.

While the text of these lessons contains information that is of inestimable value to printers, the greatest benefit will accrue from correspondence with the instructors of the course. Every specimen or example will be given personal attention by a competent teacher in the specialty.

The terms of the course are as liberal as the instruction is thorough. Though the outfit which goes to every student costs nearly \$5, the charge for the course is but \$20, payable on easy terms. The low rate is possible only because the machinery of the Union, which has between 40,000 and 50,000 members, can be used in lieu of canvassers or other advertising media, and the project is a non-profitable one. To encourage the study of craftsmanship among printers, the International Typographical Union offers a prize of \$5 to every student who pursues the course with ordinary diligence and intelligence. Some local unions are supplementing this offer, and employers have intimated their intention to assist employees in securing scholarships. An

additional incentive to pursue the course is that successful students will have the right to consult the instructors on technical questions as long as they remain at the trade.

The value of the course is demonstrated by the fact that some of the most accomplished printers are following it, and as one of them remarked, "The better printer a man is, the more he can benefit by the course." Inexperienced printers who have been educated under the system on which the course is based show astonishing development as decorative compositors, producing work which arouses incredulity among experienced craftsmen who are not informed as to methods of scientific instruction.

When asked why something of this nature had not been launched before, the Union officials reply that the system is a development of recent strides in the general advance of educational methods, but that the chief reason for lack of effort was that printers did not enjoy sufficient leisure to patronize such a course. This movement is a logical outcome of the establishment of the eight-hour day in the printing trade, and is in part an effort to gently influence members toward the employment of their newfound leisure in an elevating way.

The course is under the direction of the I. T. U. Commission, 120 Sherman street, Chicago, Ill., which will be pleased to correspond with any printer concerning the lessons.

TO ORGANIZED LABOR AND FRIENDS IN THE UNITED STATES.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 28, 1908.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:

The American Federation of Labor has, in defense of human liberty, been compelled to undertake the most important duty that has ever been attempted by the labor movement of this or any other country—the duty at this time and in the immediate future—so that the will of labor and of all the people, so emphatically declared, shall make unnecessary for the future the undertaking of a battle of a like character.

The interests, rights, and freedom of the most numerous and the most important portion of our people, the wage-earners, the wealth-producers, are primarily at stake. It has its essence in the struggle for human liberty. In such a struggle we can not expect that the forces and powers hostile to the workers will render to our cause either the moral or the financial assistance requisite to carry these purposes to a successful conclusion.

It is true that we do not require large sums of money, for the hearts, minds, and voices of our fellow-workers ring true, and there is unanimity of feeling, judgment, and purpose among the toiling masses of our country as never before experienced in any one contest.

In making this contest for labor's rights and for human liberty some financial means are necessary, and these must be supplied by our fellow-workers and friends.

The few officers of our International Unions and of the American Federation of Labor will not suffice in spreading the light among the masses, and yet the necessary information of the fundamental principles involved in the contest must be spread broadcast by a large number

of competent speakers. Literature and printing of all kinds must be prepared, and distributed through the mails and otherwise, so that there may be placed in the hands of our fellow-workers, and liberty-loving, fair-minded citizens, the facts in connection with this movement, and the basis upon which our contentions are made, and to furnish these requires also some financial means.

It is a malicious falsehood spread by enemies that any money contributed by our fellow workers is to be turned over to or placed at the disposal of any political party. Every dollar received by us in this campaign has been or will be devoted absolutely and alone to further the cause of the great mass of labor and the people of our country, and disbursed by the officers of the American Federation of Labor, and this, too, without suggestion, direction or control of any political party. Not one cent has been used or will be used for political partisan purposes in this campaign.

The American Federation of Labor, our great labor movement, whether National, State or local, is now as free from political partisan domination as it has ever been in the history of our movement, and we propose that it shall remain independent. In this campaign the toiling masses but take advantage of the opportunity which presents itself to abolish the wrongs too long endured and to attain the rights so justly due the workers, the wealth-producers of America. The two great political parties have spoken as have their candidates. The toilers know which of the two parties have spurned and repudiated Labor's demands for justice, and which party has cordially entertained and proclaimed Labor's demands and made them its own contention.

We appeal to you, our fellow workers and friends, to bear in mind these important facts, and the duty devolving upon us all. Confident that you will do your full duty in this great crucial hour, in so far as concerns the free and independent exercise of your industrial and political duty, we earnestly appeal to you to make some financial contribution, in order that the great work devolving upon the officers and the rank and file of the American Federation of Labor may be carried to a successful fruition and bring triumph to the greatest pending cause which it has been the honor of the toilers ever to have espoused.

Wherever a union may be in a position to make contribution this course should be pursued. If this is impracticable, unions should appeal to their members and friends, in meeting or outside, to make some financial contribution, large or small.

Secretaries of unions are requested promptly to transmit all contributions to Secretary Frank Morrison, 423-425 G Street Northwest, Washington, D. C., who will promptly acknowledge receipt of same.

Faternally yours,
SAM'L GOMPERS,
President.

Attest:

FRANK MORRISON,
Secretary.

James Duncan, 1st V. P.
John Mitchell, 2d V. P.
James O'Connell, 3d V. P.
Max Morris, 4th V. P.
D. A. Hayes, 5th V. P.
Daniel J. Keefe, 6th V. P.
Wm. D. Huber, 7th V. P.
Jos. F. Valentine, 8th V. P.
John B. Lennon, Treasurer.

Executive Council American Federation
of Labor.

CANADIAN INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES INVESTIGATION ACT.

THE Canadian Industrial Disputes Investigation Act for the prevention of strikes affecting public utilities forms the subject of an article by Victor S. Clark in Bulletin No. 76 of the Bureau of Labor, of the Department of Commerce and Labor. Dr. Clark has recently made a special investigation of the workings of this act and submits the results in this article.

The dominant motive of the act was to prevent strikes and lockouts that seriously and directly affect the general welfare. The method of the law in such disputes is to prohibit a cessation of industry, under penalties, until by the investigation of an official board the public is officially informed of the grounds of the controversy. While strikes and lockouts are not prohibited after an investigation has been made, reliance is placed upon the power of well-informed public opinion to prevent or shorten such disturbances.

The law provides for boards of conciliation and investigation, appointed for each dispute. Each board consists of three members, one selected by the workers, another by the employers, and the third by these two members, or, when they fail to agree, by the government.

The industries to which the law applies are those known as public utilities, such as steam and electric railways, power and lighting plants, and similar industries; it also extends to mines. Coal mines may perhaps be considered as pub-

lic utilities, but the application of the act to metal mines is a departure from the strict principle of the law.

In comparison with the Australasian statutes the Canadian act differs in four important particulars: (1) It applies to a limited number of industries; (2) it does not provide for the incorporation of unions; (3) it requires the appointment of a new board for each dispute instead of a permanent tribunal; (4) it does not prohibit strikes and lockouts after an investigation of their causes has been made.

The Canadian act was put in force just before an industrial depression, on the verge of a period of unemployment and falling wages. Therefore, at the very beginning it was put to a severer test than have been the Australasian laws in the twelve years of their operation.

Dr. Clark reports that no employer was found who was not favorable to the law, as better than no legislation, so far as it applied to railroads. Employers who have had actual experience with the act favor its general policy, if not all its details. Some large employers are outright partisans of compulsory arbitration, and would amend the present act to make the awards of the boards binding on both parties.

The attitude of labor toward the act is divided. Only organized labor has been in a position to express an opinion thus far. There is some sentiment in favor of the act among the rank and file of the workers, though some of the most

representative leaders are opposed to the law. Some union officers who at first were in opposition to the act are now favorable to it. At the same time the principal opposition to the act has manifested itself among the unions to which it most directly applied.

Among the public most of those who are practically familiar with labor matters, though not employers or wage-earners, approve the method of the act as well as its general object. The effect of the law has been to create a new public attitude toward industrial disputes, namely, that the public has an interest in many industrial disputes quite as immediate and important in its way as that of the conflicting parties.

From March 22, 1907, when the act went into effect, to January 15, 1908, 30 disputes became subject to investigation, and in 28 cases strikes were averted or ended. Friends of the act claim that some disputes that otherwise might have resulted in a strike have been settled without a board, because the parties were unwilling to have a public investigation. The most valuable feature of the act is

claimed to be that it established a regular form of procedure for bringing the parties together before a strike or lock-out is declared.

So far as can be judged from the experience of a single year the act has accomplished the main purpose for which it was enacted, namely, the prevention of strikes and lockouts in public-service industries. Apparently it has not affected adversely the condition of workmen or of industries where it has been applied. No employer was found who complained that the law had hampered his business; and it is not reported to have influenced prices.

Both employers and employees have shown a disposition to appeal to the law, though three-fourths of the applications have been from workmen. There is little evidence that the law has, like those of New Zealand and Australia, fostered disputes by making litigation easy. As the findings of the boards will not be accepted by either party if it considers them unreasonable, the issues brought up for settlement are usually fair subjects of controversy.

LABOR MEN'S VIEWS ON INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

SOME labor men have viewed with critical eyes the growth of interest in industrial education. The address of Luke Grant, labor editor of the Chicago Record-Herald, before the National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education, is therefore of interest. Mr. Grant said in part: "Suspicion and distrust of the trade schools does not represent the real attitude of the wage earner toward industrial education, or even toward trade schools. There are good and bad trade schools and I believe that the wage earner appreciates this as much as the employer. But there is another phase of this question which concerns the intelligent wage earner even more than questions of productivity. He sees, I think, more clearly than the employer, the human side of the problem. I believe this is the most important phase of the problem, and that the wage earner is justified in placing it above every other consideration. The production of men and women is more important than the production of manufactured material."

At the same meeting Dr. Graham Taylor, director of the Chicago Institute of Social Science, referred to the fact that the social interests of the family would be promoted by establishing industrial schools and thus prolonging the school

age through the sixteenth year. Continuing he said: "The interests of the whole people, however, would have to be safeguarded from the abuse of an unlimited apprenticeship by the monopoly of natural resources and by the limitation of the opportunities for skilled labor. If exploitation be barred by just legal safeguards and by the organized self-protection of the group or class most in danger of being exploited, the wealth producing capacity of our whole people will undoubtedly be promoted by trade schools placed within reach of all."

The next annual meeting of the National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education will be held at Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 19, 20 and 21. Labor will be represented on the program by Mr. John Mitchell, Vice President of the American Federation of Labor. Other speakers will be Hon. Elmer Ellsworth Brown, United States commissioner of education; Hon. James Wilson, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture; Governor Hoke Smith of Georgia; Mrs. Frederick Nathan, Vice President of the National Consumers' League; Hon. G. Gunby Jordan, president of the Eagle and Patent Mills, Columbus, Ga., and Robert C. Ogden, president of the Southern Education Board.

THE UNEMPLOYED IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

The results of a study by W. D. P. Bliss of what is being done for the unemployed in European countries are presented in Bulletin No. 76 of the Bureau of Labor, of the Department of Commerce and Labor. In their treatment of the problem European countries usually recognize three general classes of the unemployed—the employable, the unemployable, and the vagrant, the incorrigible, or more or less vicious.

The principal agency everywhere for dealing with the employable is the employment bureau, both private and public, but colonization and various efforts to get men "back to the land" in their home countries are also important.

Public employment bureaus in Germany have grown rapidly in the last twenty years, both in numbers and efficiency. In a recent year, for example, according to an official report, there were in Germany over 400 public employment bureaus, finding places in that year for some 550,000 persons. In France also the public bureau has become very important, the law since 1904 making the maintenance of such bureaus compulsory in all towns of 10,000 or over.

In Great Britain a means of relief for the trade-union man out of work which has been developed to great proportions is the trade union out-of-work benefit.

In the "Ghent" system the trade union out-of-work benefit is supplemented by the addition of sums contributed by the municipal or communal, or in some cases the provincial or general government. This system has been largely developed throughout Belgium and has spread to other countries, notably France. In Switzerland the attempts to establish a system of insurance against unemployment have attracted much attention, though they can not be said to have been successful.

Great Britain, Germany, and France have furnished valuable experience in the management of temporary relief works. In Germany and to a less extent in France the provision of municipal relief works has come to be general in the larger cities during the winter season.

In Germany, Switzerland, and German Austria "home shelters" are organized into a general system of homes or hotels for workmen traveling in search of work in all the larger cities and towns. Here workmen can find lodging for a night or two either by paying a small sum or, if unable to pay, by doing a little work in the morning. These are in all cases private institutions, maintained in many cases by trade unions, or not infrequently by religious societies.

Connected with these home shelters there has been developed, particularly in southern Germany and a few other portions of the German Empire, a system of smaller relief stations under Government administration or support. These relief stations are already organized in many portions of the Empire in such numbers as to be within walking distance of each other and all are connected by telephone. A workman traveling in search of work can go from shelter to shelter and at every point learn in which direction he can look for work with the most hope of success. If unable to pay for his shelter, he is required to work in the morning and travel in the afternoon, and the time he can stay at any one shelter is strictly limited. Legislation has been enacted in Prussia looking to the establishment of this system all over that kingdom. In the Cantons of Switzerland, which have accepted the system, and in considerable portions of Germany, tramps and irresponsible vagrants have largely disappeared from the community.

The most notable efforts in dealing with the unemployable are the so-called "labor colonies" of Germany and the less known but successful colonies of Switzerland. The German colonies, which have grown rapidly, so that there are now thirty in various parts of the Empire, are agricultural colonies, maintained almost wholly by private philanthropy, where any workman unable to find work can find shelter so long as he conforms to the rules of the colony. He is free to go at any time, but while in the colony must do the work assigned to him. The actual criminals are sent to penal establishments. The better grading of various classes of labor colonies for various classes of the unemployed is the aim of the Swiss colonies, most of which, however, are in their beginnings.

Akin to the labor colonies are the penal colonies, notably of Belgium, Switzerland and Holland, to which are sent those arrested for begging, persistent idleness, and other minor offenses.

ORDERED AROUND.

"Sorry, sir," telephoned the butcher, "but we are out of sirloin. Why don't your wife order you a round?"

"What's that?" exploded Harker at the other end of the line.

"I say, why don't your wife order you a round?"

"Why don't my wife order me around? Man, that is all she does from morning until night! If you were nearer, I'd—" But the startled butcher had hung up the receiver.—The Children's Visitor.

THE STORY OF A GUN.

By Wm. Lombard, "Singer Building," New York, N. Y.

A cannon with smooth bore at one time
 "was the go;"
 Its noise did the trick "on its friends and
 its foe."
 Ammunition "it varied for" "any old
 thing"
 Answered the purpose, and its echoes did
 ring.

Joseph in those days was smooth bore
 "all right,"
 And as noise was his motto, "he entered
 the fight."
 So to Washington traveled, "as a battery
 of one"
 As guard and protector of "its" friend
 "Uncle Sam."

Its Uncle "was easy," so smooth bore was
 filled
 With commissions and so-forth "for" bills
 that it killed.
 The protection by Cannon soon made
 "people sore;"
 Said "if Cannon we must have," let it be
 rifle bore.

To the foundry it went, for it "never
 was slow,"
 And rifled it was as the sequel did show.
 The people declared what a wonderful
 change.
 It has done this for us "but has length-
 ened its range."

An up-to-date Cannon was at once put
 in use.
 It cost thousands and thousands "for am-
 munition and fuse."
 When fired off "on duty" it made such a
 noise
 As to wake up the sleepers in far Illi-
 nois.

I hit it at last, "said the up-to-date Can-
 non,"
 For to rifle with rifle they won't see the
 Mammon;
 Mammon did pile in "because of its
 vigor"
 Till the flunkies refused to pull at its
 trigger.

Its peace loving friend "who first thought
 it fun"
 Foretold an explosion if "Taft-Teddy" did
 run.
 So it took up religion, and its whiskers
 did grow
 To be known "ever after" as "Dear Uncle
 Joe."

My Cannon is busted—I'll fight union la-
 bor
 From "Gompers and Toilers," my country
 —"I'll save her."
 Injunction, compunction, and the tricks
 of the trade.
 Even high balls and cocktails as friends
 "he essayed."

But the Fox "from his coveit" did very
 soon run.
 Tally-ho was the cry, "my gracious what
 fun!"
 To the bosom of Teddy "he in terror did
 fly—
 Save me, Oh! save me. And say that
 they lie."

So the "battery of old" got hammered
 again.
 For the "Christian Endeavors" and Gom-
 pers put in
 Volley after volley with a quick firing
 gun,
 And made smithereens of the old Evil
 One.

The editor of the Iron Moulders' Jour-
 nal, John P. Frey, referring to high dues,
 makes the following interesting state-
 ment:

"We may liken dues to the horsepower
 of an automobile. A four-horse power
 auto will make good headway on smooth
 and level streets, the sixteen horse-power
 roadster will carry a party with some de-
 gree of speed over country roads, but the
 forty horse-power tourist will take its
 passengers anywhere, over the roughest

roads, up the steepest hills, and through
 the worst mud holes. So with dues. The
 union with low dues has only small
 power; with medium dues it can move
 along with some degree of success in nor-
 mal times, but the high dues trade unions
 can weather every storm and overcome
 every obstacle with its reserve energy,
 which can be used when the crisis comes,
 and can be depended upon to see the
 trouble it encounters brought to a suc-
 cessful termination."

THE LABOR PRESS AND POLITICS.

HEADQUARTERS JOURNEYMEN TAILORS'
UNION OF AMERICA.

(Affiliated with American Federation of Labor.)

Bloomington, Ill., Oct. 2, 1908.

M. Grant Hamilton.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—I have observed with a great deal of satisfaction the work that is being done by the labor press of the country to bring success to the political policy of the American Federation of Labor as enunciated by President Gompers and the Executive Council, upon action previously taken by conventions of the A. F. of L. and by the labor conferences held in Washington. Almost without exception the labor papers are standing staunch by our friends and are not hesitating to point out who are the enemies of labor. Their educational influence upon the working people of the communities in which they are published is enormous and whatever degree of success is attained in our campaign, much credit will be due the labor papers for having brought it about. I believe that the success of the platform adopted by the Denver convention of the Democratic party is absolutely essential for the immediate future progress of the labor movement. And this platform can only be made operative through the election of Mr. Bryan as President and a

Democratic Congress in sympathy with the platform. And I propose, as one trade unionist at least, to use my pen and my voice with such power as I may possess, to bring about the election of Mr. Bryan and members of Congress who are in sympathy with the Denver platform. From now to the close of the campaign, every possible effort will be made by the enemies of our movement to frighten the labor people into voting against their own interest. Threats will be made of shut-downs by factories, mills and shops. Some such things may even take place. The calamity howlers will be abroad in the land telling the working people that if Bryan is elected the country will immediately become a slough of despond and the working people will starve. The labor press can do much to prevent this kind of thing having any serious effect, and I am sure they will not be found wanting in that direction. I want to assure you, and through you the proprietors of the labor press of the country, that the officers of the Federation and, I am sure, the great bulk of members of organized labor, appreciate the splendid work that has been done and will be done in this campaign by the labor papers. Yours fraternally,

JOHN B. LENNON,

Treasurer American Federation of Labor.

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Address PETER W. COLLINS, G. S.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Stockton No. 1, L. I. B. E. W.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

We may be "slightly disfigured," but the Ladies of the L. I. B. E. W. are "still in the ring." The unsettled state of affairs, while Stockton was lightly touched indeed, has caused many changes and due to removals we have lost several members, but we expect to make up their number from among the new arrivals. But it is not local affairs I wish to write of, but international.

After we had written to the journal we received a number of inquiries and although some sister tried to organize, they had a hard time. The trouble with all is, I think, the same as one sister frankly admitted, "I never belonged to a union and I don't know how it does things."

As I have probably said we have two union members in our local, the secretary holding a withdrawal card from the Laundry Workers' union, and I carrying a card in the International Typographical Union. Of course that facilitated matters a great deal here, but it doesn't help a local in Buffalo or Duluth, so we are coming to the members of the L. I. B. E. W. for aid.

We have received congratulations from friends and strangers. One brother, Bro. Mead, I believe, has called down heaven's blessings and many others have been equally kind, but will they allow me to suggest they might bless us, heaven and themselves if they would help us a little in this work. Let us send you a copy of our constitution and by-laws and see how easy it will be to organize an auxiliary. Remain in the auxiliary local until the sister members have had sufficient experience to handle matters and then by the time it has been in their hands a year you will be surprised at its influence and power.

Thanking the brothers and Secretary Collins for kindnesses and courtesies, I am,
Fraternally yours,

MRS. E. C. DAVIS.
1541 E. Scotts Ave.,
Stockton, Cal.

Chicago No. 9.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I think it would be a surprise to a great many of the brothers at large to

find a few lines in the WORKER direct from No. 9. We have a new set of officers, all the way through, and expect to take up the work where our outgoing officers let off, and be just as efficient if possible.

Most of our members are working at present, and for the most part satisfied, although we expect better conditions from several directions.

I regret very much to inform the brothers of the death of Dan Wayne, who was one of our oldest and most faithful members. He was a charter member of No. 9, and as a man of character and principle he was never found wanting.

He will be remembered as a man sincere, honest and true to a just cause. Local Union No. 9 sympathizes as a unit with the widow and relatives.

Fraternally yours,
J. W. YOUNT, F. S.

Pittsburg No. 14.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

There is nothing doing in Pittsburg, and business is dull, with plenty of men out of work. Times are about as reported last issue, except a month of misery and suspense for many of the brothers, and this is only the beginning of the end. What think you, brothers? Is it not time to exercise your think pot for your individual and collective interests?

In compliance and in keeping with my promise to submit a letter on unionism, I will endeavor to show its different branches, and what should and will be the ultimate sequel of the movement.

First, we will consider the craft or trade union. Many union men have and are holding that all that is essential to the welfare and success of the workers is to belong to their craft union, and stand by it on all occasions.

First, they fail to see the danger of antagonism that is sure to creep in.

Second, they have no power other than the strike and the boycott through force of numbers and strength of organization.

Third, they have no control over the prices of the necessities of life.

Fourth, they have no power of legislating or of making and forcing the law. Craft union fights on the industrial field for better conditions, higher wages and shorter hours.

Now we come to another branch of unionism that is vitally necessary, namely, the co-operative union, which controls the commodities necessary for the maintenance and comfort of the workers, thereby saving the profits that are filched from the workers over the counter which goes to swell the dividends of the controllers and exploiters of this nation. The co-operative union fights to distribute the necessities of life to all the workers at the lowest possible cost.

We have come to the political union, which aims to get control of the legislating and law enforcing division. The trade union cannot succeed and get justice for its members singly by itself or in conjunction with the co-operative union except backed up by the political union. In the past it has been the custom for each union man to support the friend party or faction which each worker was raised or taught to believe was his party, thereby dividing the strength of the union on the most important field, and undoing all previous work in supporting the enemy and injuring the workmen individually and collectively.

There must of necessity be political action by the workers in the interest of the workers, by an organization controlled and financed by the workers with working class candidates on a ticket and platform which demands union wages and union conditions.

The political union fights to win the state and nation and make it serve the interests of all the workers. So, brothers, to have a true union it should embrace all branches of unionism. And, brothers, let us make this journal an advocate of union principles and human rights. Let us throw away the sword which is an antique weapon, originating from the savage and barbarian, and which is used solely for destruction, and take up the pen which is the mightier weapon of Christian civilization and used for the enlightenment of humanity.

Let us fearlessly speak the truth, ignorance being the cause of all our misery.

Yours for the cause,

G. A. STOCKDALE,
Press Secretary.

Detroit No. 18.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

To let people know that Local No. 18 is still alive and incidentally to enjoy a pleasant holiday, we gave an excursion to Sugar Island, Saturday, August 22, where the day was spent in playing ball, dancing and digging into fat lunch boxes. Every one reported a jolly good time and seemed to be having the best kind of a time, as they always do when they attend the festivities given by No. 18.

In my last letter I reported work looking favorable, but prospects having

changed much, as the weather does on a holiday, and if any one is thinking of coming toward Detroit, just go buy a ticket or take a freight in another direction, because the only job you'll get here for some time, unless some one dies, is a job with a pick and shovel, and we all know how much love wire men have for such weapons. So, take warning when thinking of this town and beat it in another direction.

Any brother going through here is extended a cordial invitation to visit our meetings. We also extend a very cordial invitation to the members of No. 18 who have not been to a meeting lately. Come up and we will tell you a funny story or start an argument or do most anything to get a crowd in the hall.

The more interest a man takes in his local the more he gets out of it and you ought not to expect more out of it than you put in. Now, you members who do not take an active part in your organization, what working conditions do you expect in the future? Do you always want to plod along satisfied with present conditions? Think it over and think seriously.

Fraternally,

M. T. GREEN,
Press Secretary.

Sacramento No. 36.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Don't you think that something on the order of the publicity bureau run by the so-called "interest" would be a good thing for organized labor?

Say, for instance, a circular was sent to the different locals in towns where one of the dailies printed a labor column to be inserted with the labor news, such as the following: 'Practically every foreign country of standing industrially has recognized by legislation that principle that the worker is entitled to compensation for injuries received in the line of duty.'

Twenty-two foreign states or governments have passed such enactments. They are: Austria, Belgium, British Columbia, Cape of Good Hope, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Luxemburg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Russia, South Australia, Spain, Sweden and West Australia.

There may be such a thing on foot now by organized labor, but not being in a position to know, and thinking it would be a good thing, am taking the liberty of writing you.

We know that the news bureau is being run by different interests, and its being continued even at the expense incurred, shows that it must answer the purpose intended or it would have been discontinued long since.

By collecting little items that would educate the majority of us, that have no time to keep track of what is passing in the way of legislation and only read the news items of the dailies, it seems to me that it would be a good thing.

Business agents, or those officers who give out the happenings in the daily labor news columns, could no doubt occasionally slip in a little something like the foregoing every once in a while, thereby obtaining gratis what the news bureaus pay for.

Fraternally yours,
E. H. VAN HARLINGEN.

Cleveland No. 38.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Resolutions of respect adopted by Local Union No. 38, I. B. E. W., on the death of Bro. Herbert Warner, who passed from our midst Friday, Aug. 7, 1908:

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom to remove from our midst our esteemed friend and brother; and

WHEREAS, In view of the loss sustained by us in the decease of our friend and associate, and the still greater loss sustained by those near and dear to him; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we sincerely console with the relatives of the deceased in the dispensation of Divine Providence and that the heartfelt testimonial of our sympathy and sorrow be forwarded to the relatives of our friend and brother; and be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter in mourning for a period of sixty days in memory of our deceased brother, and a copy of these resolutions be recorded in our minutes and a copy sent our official journal for publication, and a copy be sent to the relatives of our late brother.

W. KAVANAUGH,
A. A. McDONALD,
F. STROUD,
Committee.

Cleveland No. 39.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

How to make a weak union: Send your dues in by a brother; speak evil of your union whenever there is an opportunity. Threaten to leave your union or disobey its laws if it doesn't do just as you would have it. Never attend meetings except when there is no other place to go or to save a fine. Be sure to tell every one you meet that you oppose the action of your union. When you have a personal spite at a brother, save up your wrath till meeting night, then tell him what you think of him. Always hint or insinuate that those who do the work of the union are seeking an office or some glory, at the same time be very careful that you

do not do any work lest you be accused the same way. Be sure never to say anything good of labor or of those who work for the union when you are at the theatre, the saloon or in bed. Never be guilty of going to labor mass meetings if you can find any excuse for not being present. Then after doing all these things boast of being a model union man. Write his epitaph in the family album thus: "I have ruined where I have not sown. I have enjoyed benefits which I have no part in making. I have hung onto the coat tail of the great labor movement, doing all I could to retard its progress. I have smitten the hand that brought me blessings. I am an ungrateful coward." Change.

Kind words between shipmates in place of sneers and slurs make the day pass quickly in place of services to last a week.

H. R. HARMAN.

Syracuse No. 43.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

The following resolutions were adopted Aug. 14, 1908, by Local No. 43:

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom to call from the home of our esteemed brother, Clarence Ripley, his infant daughter, Cora B. Ripley; and

WHEREAS, We mourn with our brother the loss of one whom in life he held dear and whose spirit it has pleased God to call to the life beyond the grave; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, as a union in brotherly love, pay tribute to her memory by expressing our sorrow at her loss and extend to Bro. Ripley, relatives and friends our deepest sympathy in their bereavement; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this Local, and a copy be sent to our bereaved brother, and a copy be sent to our official journal for publication.

F. A. CHADWICK,
C. F. BROWN,
G. B. WARNER,
Committee on Resolutions.

Youngstown No. 62.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

In behalf of Local No. 62, Youngstown, Ohio, I wish you would publish in the WORKER that the Youngstown Telephone company is still on the unfair list. We receive communications and inquiries regarding this company nearly every day, and as there seems to be a rumor afloat that the company is all right again, we wish to notify all traveling brothers that such is not the case. No. 62 is still on strike against them and doing the best she can.

Yours fraternally,
D. B. DUNLOP.

Dallas No. 69.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Just to let the Brotherhood know No. 69 is still on the map, we have obligated three new brothers this month, and some of the boys are getting their cards paid up.

I am very sorry to say we are to have no parade on Labor day, Sept. 7, but the Central Body says no, and the majority rules always.

Everything is dull here and looks bad for the future.

There are three to one loafing at present and it looks pretty blue in every line.

Yours fraternally,

OLIN W. ALLEN,
Press Secretary.

Dallas No. 69.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As it is now rumored that the "Independent" are going to start on or about the first of October, there are a good many floaters here on the ground, and it is my advice to linemen to stay away until further notice.

Here of late No. 69 has taken in a few new members, mostly inside men.

Inside work is rather dull at present. Most of the brothers in arrears are straightening up.

We decided not to send any delegate to the convention at St. Louis, as we were in doubt as to the legality of the convention.

If there is anything doing in the near future, will let you know.

Yours fraternally,

O. W. ALLEN,
Press Secretary.

Syracuse No. 79.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

The old saying, "A new broom always sweeps clean," applies to my case, as a new Press Secretary, for I have written twice since the beginning of my term of office, which has been as much as the former Press Secretary wrote in a whole year, but enough of that knocking. What I want to tell all the brothers is about our Labor Day parade in Syracuse. It was a grand affair. While there were not so many floats in line, there was a good big lot of men, for the Carpenters turned out over 1000 strong, and while Local 79 has not such a following, at the same time we turned out 90 per cent strong with a float that we feel was the finest in line, but there was no chance at any of the prizes. I think that maybe the judges may have been property owners who have a grudge against us for trimming their trees, or spitting tobacco juice all over their sidewalks. Maybe next year we will get a look in, let us hope so.

Well, brothers, we are going to have a big time next week, beginning with the 14th, but it will be history by the time you see this letter. Our city is lit up for the fair and Ka-noo-no Karnival, something fine, and all done by good card men and good conditions, which we cannot say for the most of our work, especially the card men, for there are a lot of the boys who know that they can work without cards and are certainly doing it, but maybe some day they will come back to the fold.

Well, I guess this is enough for this time, so au revoir.

Yours fraternally,

G. W. C.

Boston No. 104.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

The situation in Boston from a trade standpoint remains unchanged since my letter in the July WORKER. So for lack of a better subject, on which to write, perhaps a brief outline of the difficulties that beset us in building up an organization in Boston and vicinity may be acceptable.

My experience as a trades unionist compels me to admit the melancholy fact that the men that follow our trade are to a certain degree responsible for locals in the I. B. E. W. not enjoying better conditions than they obtain at present. While in some instances, no doubt, we are retarded in our progress toward organization by the employing companies, nevertheless I don't believe the opposition is of so strong and determined a character that it could not be overcome by a united effort on the part of the men working at our trade, and a closer attention to their obligations as trades unionists. A great many union (?) men, apparently, think it sufficient to be initiated and pay their dues about every three months, and never attend a meeting unless notified that some matter of importance is coming up for discussion. Very good members in their way, no doubt, and probably would prove faithful to the cause in any difficulty that may arise, but still, not the kind of members that make an organization successful. I wonder how this type of a union man figures his interest would be cared for if all members paid as little attention to the affairs of the union as he does?

Then, again, we have the member who is continually going in arrears, because some one does not meet him on pay night and collect his dues. This is one of the most troublesome members we have to deal with, as he is not only a hindrance to the work to be done by the business agent or organizer of the local by occupying his time when he should be employed elsewhere, but shows a bad example to the men who work with him, as in time

they will also expect some one to come around on pay night and collect their dues, to save them from the disagreeable and troublesome necessity of attending the meeting. This kind of member must argue that we are running an industrial insurance business.

Of course all brothers have met that peculiar specimen or trades unionist known as the "calamity howler." We have them. When was there ever any subject of any kind concerning the organization but this misguided member would take exceptions to everything that was said, and every one that said anything, and persist in digging up and enlarging trivial details that another member would not notice, to prove that the whole matter and everybody connected with it was wrong?

When was there ever an assessment suggested for any purpose, but this same worthy brother would grasp the opportunity to inform the local what a good member he was and how much he had paid into the local already and would like to know what he has got for it, and a lot more to the same purpose, not forgetting to predict that if we keep on our evil course that we would eventually come to eternal smash? Have you met him?

Perhaps all the harm this sort of a brother does is to provide amusement for the other members, but if he could "see himself as others see him," he would probably take a more reasonable view of things and act in a sensible manner.

No doubt all brothers recognize these types, as I presume they are not confined to any particular section, but can be found in all organizations.

We have also another type of trades unionist, which will be recognized. Have you ever seen that brother who attends all meetings, who is ready at all times to do anything honorable to advance the interests of the local; who does not decline nomination for office, for some trivial reason; who will go anywhere, at any time, to do anything to help along our movement; and with all these good qualities is quiet and unobtrusive at the meetings, always willing to take a reasonable view of all matters, and ready to abide by a majority vote, even though he is with the minority? Have you ever seen this brother at your meetings? I have, and I take off my hat to him.

I am proud to say that we also have this sort of union men in our ranks, and I fail to see how we could hold a charter anywhere without them. It is men of this stamp that has made the labor movement the power it is in the industrial world, and who are shining examples to those other brothers I have mentioned above.

When I get into this subject of organization it is hard to leave off without

covering the whole matter from my limited and humble point of view, but as this epistle is somewhat longer than I anticipated, I will drop the subject for the present.

I suppose all brothers are aware that the Home Telephone company are supposed to commence operations in Boston and vicinity in the near future. Whether they will or not is a question, but we are informed that the only thing preventing the company making a start is some legal point in reference to the charter, which will have to be settled first. In the event of the Home company getting a foothold in this part of the country, it will be a good thing for us, as competition for labor always results in labor receiving a better price; and God knows it is small enough here at present. Aside from the new company there is nothing else to write of from a trade standpoint. Business is unusually dull here this summer, but it can't last forever, and we look for improvement in the near future.

Having taken enough valuable space in the WORKER on this occasion, I will close for the present.

Again urging all brothers generally and brothers of Local 104 particularly to brace up and attend the meetings and don't lay themselves open to the charge of selfishness by expecting a few willing members to carry on the business of the Local. With best wishes, I am,

Yours fraternally,

E. B. CONNORS,
Press Secretary.

South Bend No. 132.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

The following resolutions were adopted by Local 132:

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom to remove from our midst our late brother, Claud Walburn; and

WHEREAS, The fraternal relations held by our deceased brother with the members of this local render it proper that we show our respect and regard for him and that we place on our records our appreciation of his services as a member and a brother and his merit as a man; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the sudden removal of such a brother from our midst leaves a vacancy and a shadow that will be deeply felt by all the members, and that this local tender its sincerest sympathy to the relatives of our deceased brother in their sad affliction; and be it further

Resolved, That while we bow in humble submission to the will of the Most High, we do not the less mourn for our lost brother who has been called from labor to rest; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of thirty days in testimony

of the respect and esteem in which our late brother was held by his fellow members; that a copy of these resolutions be spread on the minutes of the Local, and that a copy be sent to his family in their bereavement, and that a copy be sent to our official journal for publication.

H. C. MOORE,
L. HENRY,
G. A. SIMPSON,
Committee.

Fort Worth No. 156.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Being absent from the state during August, I failed to get a letter in for September. Everything is moving along nicely here.

The Bell company and the North Texas Traction company are still fighting us, but we are doing everything honorable to get them in line. We have levied an assessment on each member of \$2.00 per annum to be used exclusively as a defense fund, and I do sincerely hope that other locals will create this defense fund.

My experience during the fourteen years that I have been a member of this grand old Brotherhood is that where a local has been protected by a good defense fund that the enemy has been considerably more consistent and docile in its attitude toward us. A good defense fund is one of the strongest arguments in settling disputes or controversies in the industrial world. If every local in the I. B. E. W. had created such a fund five years ago and maintained it until now, the Bell company would today be employing nothing but good card men at proper wages.

Local 156 is growing and is in good condition. The boys are all doing their best to live up to their obligation and altogether we feel that we are doing a great deal of good for our great cause.

Brothers in America, let us line up and stick, stick; and though the sacrifice may at times seem great and the path seem dark, we will triumph, for we are enlisted in the greatest cause under the stars.

Sickness prevents a longer letter for this month.

Fraternally,
ROBERT G. WRIGHT.

Fresno No. 169.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Just a little story from Fresno. Everything in line work and wiring still remaining quiet. A few of the faithful old guard still shaking out crosses and doing that which is absolutely necessary.

The way the companies are holding on to their money would be a good object lesson to some of us workingmen, if we would take heed and do likewise.

Well, we are learning all right and if this depression continues much longer, we will be in a fair way to have our lesson learned.

On August 12, Mr. Hugh Murrin, President of the Pacific Council, was in Fresno, and addressed No. 169 on many important issues concerning our Brotherhood. It is seldom we have an opportunity of hearing any of our officials, and the address was thoroughly enjoyed and fully appreciated by those present.

A lady riding in a car,
A lineman sat beside her,
Turned her nose up, oh; so far,
Malignant as a spider.

Now, wasn't she the saucy thing
To sniff her little nosey?
Linemen ain't no flowers of spring;
They have to sweat, by josey!

She gathered up her furbelows
With annihilating glances;
Lineman sees tip-tilted nose,
Not taking any chances.

Now wasn't she the saucy thing
To sniff her little nosey
And flaunt the man whose pockets ring
With money in his cloyse?

She stepped off backwards in the street
And landed with a flutter,
She seemed to be all head and feet
While rolling to the gutter.

Now, wasn't she the saucy thing
To sniff her little nosey?
Lineman's heart went ting-a-ling;
Lineman's face went rosy.

C. T. COLLINS,
Press Secretary.

Galesburg No. 184.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

It has been a long time since No. 184 has been heard from. I guess the brothers think we are dead, but we are still living in the good old land of the living.

Labor Day was celebrated in grand form, with a good parade and plenty of amusements. The chief feature of the parade was the float with the I. B. E. W. work, also "Jack," the I. B. E. W. dog, who guarded the boys safely during the parade.

We are not as strong as some of our brother locals, but we manage to meet twice a month, and generally have most of our brothers there.

Things are somewhat dull here at present, but there is some talk of some business this winter. Nearly all of our boys are working at present.

Well, boys, do not come this way expecting to find much. Yet, if you do

come this way with the goods, we will do our best to help you.

We have a few "rats" running at large, but we hope to rewire them soon and get them in line again.

Well, as this is my first attempt I had better close, with best wishes to the Brotherhood.

Fraternally,
W. H. CORU,
Press Secretary.

Seattle No. 202.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

No. 202 can report good progress and excellent promise for the coming winter's work.

We have a good average attendance of members, with a good increase of membership. We all know the trouble of getting members to attend the meetings. Their excuses are often right, and always worth giving some attention to. We all know the summer months are not conducive to good attendance; at other times it is imperative that we open promptly, and No. 202 opens promptly and attends strictly to business, accepting no side talks or irrelevant, useless questions; the result being that members from a distance know what is what, and doing business promptly gives one a chance to get home at a reasonable time, and this takes away one of the pet excuses for not attending meetings.

We have had the pleasure of a few weeks of having our brother, H. Weber, District Organizer, with us. He is leaving for Spokane and we strongly recommend him to our Spokane locals, for he has done a good work in Seattle. He has been after all the delinquent members with good results, not forgetting to gather new timber by the way. We all regret that Bro. Weber has to leave us, but he says he will come back and finish the good work. All we can say to Bro. Weber is "Hurry back."

A. S. H.

Atlantic City No. 211.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As the busy season is over and the people having returned to their homes, the business and hotel men will begin repairs and others will begin to build and organized labor will get there with both feet and none are better prepared to start in with a cleaner record than Local No. 211 with a strictly closed shop and a two-year agreement signed up with an honorable body of contractors. We all look forward to a prosperous fall and winter and we most respectfully request of all men coming this way looking for work to have up-to-date cards or they will receive a scanty welcome, because

we have decided to live strictly up to the constitution.

Local No. 210 paid us a fraternal visit on Aug. 25, and we certainly had a hot time, with plenty of hot air and cold beer and other things too numerous to mention. All hail to No. 210. Every man is a king.

Fraternally,
HARRY H. FREED.

Williamsport No. 239.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Local No. 239 has said I shall write a letter for the WORKER. I will try and fill the bill, but this is my first attempt.

There is not much doing here, but I believe all the brothers are working.

The American Union has a small bunch doing some repair work. Bro. Brady has charge.

The Citizens' Electric Co. is doing some work, but nobody stays there very long. They pay twenty-five cents for every hour you work.

The Edison Light Co. has had no use for a card man since our trouble with them was called off last fall, but we are still hoping for the best. We are taking in a few members occasionally, but those occasions are not as frequent as they should be, for there is quite a number here working at the business that are not members of the I. B. E. W. We are not having very good attendance at our meetings, but I think it will get better when the weather gets cooler.

How does it suit you, Beck?

Yours fraternally,
H. HAIN.

San Jose No. 250.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

At our last regular meeting Past President Peckham was presented with a beautiful locket by the officers and members of Local Union No. 250, as a token of appreciation for his past services and efforts in behalf of the Brotherhood. Harry is well and popularly known among the boys and has held many positions of trust and responsibility in the Brotherhood, of which body he has been a member many years.

Worthy of note is the recent appointment of Bro. "Moose" John Jennings to the position of extra man in the fire department. The writer, in conversation with Mrs. Jennings, says that her life is full of troubles since Jack's appointment. Everytime the clock in the parlor would chime forth the hour he would bound to the middle of the floor and don his clothes and it was some time before she could convince him of the true source of the bell. In the evening after working hours Jack can be seen sprinkling the garden with the hose—something he has never

done before without a great deal of persuasion. He is going to have his picture taken in his fireman's regalia and no doubt we can prevail on the editor of the WORKER to publish the same.

The California Gas and Electric company have been very busy of late rebuilding the town and quite a number of the boys are employed. This is strictly a card job, for it is the desire of the company that none but first class work be done.

The telephone company expects to do considerable rebuilding in contemplation of common battery being installed in the near future. At present work in the phone line is very slack.

The inside men are just about going and that is all. It is expected that several large jobs will be started late this summer. The reported purchase of the Santa Clara street railroad by the Southern Pacific seems to have been so and the improvements which were abandoned some time ago on account of lack of funds will now be taken up and pushed rapidly to completion. This means a network of electric railways around the county and all of which is very fine for the fixers.

Among those who have visited us lately and worked in our midst are Ben Chandler, "Cyclone" Smith, "Kid" Gillette, W. J. Swearingen, "Pop" Jones, J. D. Bryant and Charley Moore.

Fraternally yours,

CHAS. H. HARRISON.

Ashland No. 255.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Just a few lines in the WORKER to let the brothers know that No. 255 is still doing business at the same old stand.

Some of our brothers left us for a while, but while gone away they don't forget No. 255.

Bro. James Gaynor is at Duluth for the light company, and Wm. Turner has gone to Oshkosh.

Bro. Tanner had a very sore toe for a while, but now he is better. (That was toe bad.)

Two of our bunch are playing bad luck lately. Bro. Frank Ellis had his leg broken, and so did Jerry Willoughby.

The convention of the Electrical Workers at Minneapolis was postponed until September some time.

The Central Labor Council is making things ready for a grand celebration here on Labor Day. All the unions of the surrounding towns will be in Ashland to help do things up brown.

Bro. Walter Smith can't attend meetings, as he has not got any shoes. Any brother having an old pair that's any good—No. 9—send them along.

Bro. Bob Ferguson of No. 139, who was working with us for a while, departed

for the south. He said the weather was too cold up this way.

Bro. Talaska, that's myself, is working for the Home Telephone company for a few weeks.

Well, as my arm is getting tired, I will have to cut her short and ring off. With best wishes to all the locals at large, I beg to remain,

Fraternally yours,

S. J. TALASKA,
Press Secretary.

Well, sir, we were getting along first straight up to about a month ago, when Bros. Frank Ellis and J. Willoughby got hurt, and on Sept. 11, 1908, Bro. John Nichols got hurt. He was setting a pole with a team at Muskeg, Wis., for the Bell Telephone company with some rubes and they let the pole come down on top of him. At first they all thought it was all off with him, but in a short time he came to. He was brought into Ashland that evening and taken to his home, where he is now resting easy. I heard he had two ribs broken and pretty badly hurt inside, but just how bad I don't know.

The last victim is Bro. W. Smith. He is walking only on one leg. I don't know just what the trouble is, as I have not seen him since he saw the doctor. He is at Hawley's hospital under Dr. Hawley's care.

Bro. S. Bailey is requested to sing the boys an up-to-date song after every meeting. How about it, Sheff? Think you can do it?

Brevester, an old member out of 255, was suspended out of our Local, as he was four months behind with his dues. He was notified to pay, but failed. Now he is in Duluth working for the Bell Telephone company and they are on the unfair list. Brothers, you know what a man is that will do that.

I think he is in Superior, Wis., instead of Duluth.

"Beg pardon. My mistake." Watch out 276, don't let him tell you anything. Make him show the goods.

We had a fine time Labor Day. Everybody turned out and 255 was there like a dog. The Electrical Workers all had a brass curtain rod with an electric light globe on for a handle and a ribbon made them a nice cane. Everybody said we made a nice showing. The train men were all dressed in the Headlight overalls and jumpers. They also made a good showing.

All the brothers are working and that is all. Floaters, keep away from Ashland if you are looking for work, as that they have not got in Ashland.

Our meetings are attended pretty good, so we can't say nothing about that.

Would like to hear from Green Bay No. 158. What's the matter, John Murphy?

Are you all sleeping? Come out of it if you are.

Well, thinking I wrote enough, I will ring off. With best of wishes to all, I remain,

Fraternally yours,

STANLEY J. TALASKA,
Press Secretary.

Oakland No. 283.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

For the benefit of our traveling brothers who wish to know what the members of No. 283 are doing, I take pleasure in dropping you these few lines. As to work it is all done. The Home Telephone company have all but quit and laid off all of their construction gangs. The light company also reduced forces last week.

Wishing success to those who may chance to read these few lines, I remain,

Fraternally,

ROBT. MILLER,
Press Secretary.

The following resolutions were adopted by Local 283 in memory of our deceased brother, Daniel Cunningham:

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom to call from our midst our esteemed brother, Daniel Cunningham; and

WHEREAS, We mourn the loss of one who, while in life, we held dear as a brother and as a friend, and while we can never more grasp his hand and meet his pleasant smile, we humbly submit to Him who has called our brother's spirit to the life beyond the grave; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we as a brotherly organization pay tribute to his memory in these lines as a character worthy of confidence, honor and justice, and that our union has sustained a sad and severe loss; and be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter in mourning for a period of thirty days as a token of respect to our departed friend and brother, and a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this Local and a copy furnished our official journal for publication.

Signed, WM. HEYNE,
J. E. FENDRICK,
B. JONES,
Committee.

Fargo No. 285.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

It comes about the time to write the official organ once again. I was a little late last month and was called down slightly by our body here because there was not a letter from our Local in last month's issue. I wish to state that my letter was sent in on the 25th of the month and I received a letter from you

stating it was too late for July issue and that it would go into the August issue. It is now Aug. 21 and so far I have not seen an issue of the August WORKER. The speed of the new publishing company must be very inferior to that of the old company which printed the WORKER, as we always used to get our organ about the 15th. Kindly let us know what is the matter if a letter written on the 25th of the month in Fargo, N. D., cannot be printed in a paper that does not come out in Springfield, Ill., till after the 22d of the next month.

Everything is going very fairly here and every one is at work, although we have a few delinquents and have suspended a few: Their names are as follows: B. J. O'Donnell, Fargo, N. D.; A. V. Pherson, Fargo, N. D.; Jos. Moran, Jamestown, N. D.; W. G. McMillan, Santa Barbara, Cal., and others pending. This brings a proposition to my mind. So many people and brothers say how is it that so and so local went bump, and I will say this much: How often do we find societies and bodies of men that fail and go to pieces seemingly from no cause whatever?

The societies may have the strongest foundations upon which to build up one of the greatest bodies for good imaginable, but, through personal feeling or negligence, go to the wall.

Personal feeling should never be brought into an organization, especially into a labor union. Each and every one of us have a right to our own private opinion, and, at the same time, our opinion may not carry the weight among the distinterested parties that the other man's opinion would.

It is necessary for the success of any movement to carry within its folds every one who is vitally interested in it, and all personal feelings should be sunk for the good and well being of the whole, rather than for the individual advancement.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for the space necessary for this string of thought and with best wishes to yourself and the I. B. E. W. at large, I am,

Yours very fraternally,

CHAS. E. PARRY,
Press Secretary.

Ogden No. 316.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

It has been some time since we have seen a letter in the WORKER from Local No. 316, but nevertheless we are still on earth, a few of us at least. We have fared pretty well during these strenuous times and things look brighter than for some time. Since our last writing we have had a settlement with the Bell Telephone company, but as yet none of our boys have been able to land a job. Nothing doing is the word. However, we have

been promised a job as soon as there is anything doing. A short time ago one of our good brothers, Bro. Frank Todd, was fined \$500 for doing work which was detrimental to the good of the Brotherhood.

One of our brothers was injured while working for the Independent Telephone company. He was trimming trees when one of the limbs which he was standing on gave way and he was thrown to the ground, twenty feet below. Bro. Dick Jessop was the unfortunate member, and since the accident we have missed our worthy Vice President.

We had a smoker a short time ago, in which all of the members who were in town participated in and helped to get some of our members to meeting who are not in the habit of attending very regular. Still we hold our meetings regularly every Thursday and would be pleased to have any of the floating brothers call on us.

Well, I think this will "be about all" for this time. Oh, yes, by the way, we are preparing for a "big" time Labor day, and if everything works out as we expect, it will eclipse any labor demonstration we have had in years.

Well, I'll just cut it short or I'll be getting into trouble with the man who throws the "dice."

Yours respectfully,

PRESS SECRETARY.

Long Branch No. 331.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

The trade unions of Monmouth county, New Jersey, for the first time in trade history, joined forces and celebrated Labor Day in a most grotesque manner at Asbury Park. The railroads ran special excursions from the various points in New York and New Jersey to Asbury Park on that day and it is safe to say that there were at least 50,000 visitors who enjoyed the demonstration in conjunction with the inhabitants of that noted summer resort.

Most of the unions appeared in neat uniforms, which gave the demonstration somewhat of a military effect. Thousands of business men gazed upon the men of toil as they marched through the principal streets of the city, many of them wondering whether or not the abuse heaped upon organized labor by the subsidized press and its enemies was justifiable or not. It started them to think to the extent, no doubt, that they will make a study of the true principles for which organized labor stands, and when the truth is made clear to them, we will have gained many friends for our cause. For, after all, the average business man who is opposed to organized labor, has arrived at his conclusions upon hearing our enemy's side of the labor question. They are honest in their conviction and

therefore should not be condemned or abused by us. But instead we should use our every effort to make them familiar with the principles of our cause, what we are trying to achieve and what good we have already done for the wage earners of our country.

The education of the business man is just as essential as is the education of the new recruits of our ranks. For the reason that when a man becomes familiar with our objects, he generally becomes an enthusiast and is willing to do all in his power to advance our interests.

There is no better way to educate the business men in the principles of organized labor than through such labor demonstrations.

Labor Day was created through the agitation of organized labor and it should be as dear to the trade unionists as is any other holiday we celebrate. No member of organized labor should hesitate from doing his duty upon that day. He is not called upon to sacrifice anything in doing this duty, and he should therefore respond immediately when his union says we will participate in the Labor Day demonstration.

The demonstration at Asbury Park on Labor Day will long be remembered by those participating therein, as it was successful in every way, shape and form. To the Electrical Workers fall the honor of supplying the grand marshal in the presence of Bro. Floyd Brooks of Local No. 331. Bro. Brooks is well known throughout Monmouth county, and is respected by the rank and file of the labor movement therein, as well as the business men. To say that he managed the demonstration successfully is putting it mild, as he was congratulated on every side by representatives of all unions participating and as well as by the sympathizers of our cause.

The members of Local No. 331 paraded in natty uniforms and had a large float in the parade. They were greeted by cheers and handclapping all along the line of march.

All trades participating in the parade made a grand showing, and let it be said to their credit that they created a favorable impression upon the minds of the business men and their employers that will remain there for many years to come.

At the athletic grounds we were entertained by the following speakers: Mayor T. Frank Appleby, General John C. Patterson of Ocean Grove, Thomas P. Fay of Long Branch, a lawyer of renown and ability, the Rev. John T. Nichols, pastor of the First Congregational church of Asbury Park, Congressman Hamill of Jersey City, N. J., Edward Barry, general organizer for the Tin and Sheet Metal Workers, Samuel Botterill of Orange, N. J., president of the state organization of

Carpenters and Joiners, and our Grand President F. J. McNulty. As it would take up too much space in the WORKER to write their speeches verbatim, I will refrain from doing so. Will state that they were all of them able speakers and all of them delivered able addresses.

I will, however, quote the following from the Asbury Park Press of Sept. 8, which speaks for itself:

"Probably the most forcible speaker of the afternoon was F. J. McNulty, General President of the Electrical Workers. 'There is no state in the union,' he said, 'to which labor can point to with more pride as to what has been accomplished in the labor movement than New Jersey.' Then he went on to tell how organized labor had compelled an enforcement of laws against child labor in New Jersey by contracting with families in which children under age did manual labor to pay those children as much as they earned in sweat shops to go to school. 'Labor has nothing to be ashamed of,' he declared, with pride. His address was applauded and cheered."

It is expected that the success of our first demonstration will bring forth renewed energy and activity for greater demonstrations on future Labor Days in Monmouth county.

Yours fraternally,

AMPERES.

Long Branch No. 331.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

It has been quite a long time since No. 331 has had a letter in our official journal, and as I am to act as Press Secretary for the next six months, I will try and tell the brothers what we are doing here on the coast.

Just at present the boys are getting ready for a big Labor Day parade at Asbury Park, in which we all hope the I. B. E. W. will take the prize, as the brothers are doing all they can to make our float and everything of the I. B. in the parade the finest.

Last meeting night we had our regular election of officers, a copy of which I am inclosing for the directory.

It is no use to say that work is scarce. Every one knows that. Neither do we say stay away. If you have the green goods you will be treated white in this Local all the way through.

Fraternally yours,

E. P. TAYLOR,
Press Secretary.

Fort Smith No. 346.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, brothers, I will endeavor to let you know how No. 346 is getting along in this section of the country. We are

increasing our membership every month. We took four over the rocky roads last meeting and expect to take three more over the road at our next regular meeting.

Well, brother, if you see any brother drifting this way, turn them in another direction, for the electrical business is very dull here, inside and out. The Bell Telephone company laid two of their men off the first of the month, so there are about six linemen laying around here at present, so you can see things are very dull around this neck of the woods.

Our President, Bro. Billy Moore, has been off for fifteen days to visit his parents in Texas and reports having a good time.

Well, brothers, we expect to have a Labor Day celebration here Labor Day that has never been equaled heretofore. We expect about fifteen hundred union men in the parade, and I wish to say that our celebration is made up of union men and union work and union money only.

We had Bro. White of Dallas, Texas, last month. He gave the boys a very interesting talk and we wish to state that we were glad to have Bro. White with us, for it has been a long time since our district organizer has been around to see us, and we hope that he will drop around more often.

Just a word to a brother out of Local 346. If you happen to see this letter, please think the matter over. You left Ft. Smith some time ago owing a small bill and we would like very much for you to remit to the firm what you owe, so we won't be forced to take action on the matter, for you know yourself it looks mighty bad for the Local when a member leaves town owing a bill.

Well, brothers, I wish to state that No. 346 has a fine set of officers now and they are pretty honest, too.

Well, I guess I had better close the door for this time, hoping all the brothers are doing nicely.

Fraternally,

JOHN A. COLLINS,
Press Secretary.

Lansing No. 352.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

The following was authorized by Local No 353 upon the death of Bro A H Collier's little child:

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom to call from you one of your loved ones; therefore, we, as brothers and members of Local 352, extend our heartfelt sympathy to you and your family in your bereavement.

With kind remembrance.

JAS. TOWNSEND,
Recording Secretary.

Salt Lake City No. 354.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Local No. 354 is still doing business and intends to continue, but with greater activity than before. As we have no Press Secretary, I will try and fill the vacancy.

Our meetings are pretty well attended, although we meet on "ladies' night," Wednesdays. But as the summer is about over and the resorts closed, we look forward to improvement in attendance.

Most of the brothers are working, with the exception of a few, the work being slow to open up.

A local contractor advertised for men, but the fact is there are more men here now than we have places for, so, brothers, if you saw this advertisement, take no notice of it, because as has been stated above, there are two men for every job. I take this means to let the brothers know the state of affairs here.

Salt Lake, as most brothers know, is practically an open shop town, although we have one or two closed shops, but hope to adjust things later on.

Well, I will bring my letter to a close for the time being, and wishing the Brotherhood success, also the members, I am, Yours fraternally,

A. E. WINWARD,
Financial Secretary.

Boone No. 372.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

The following resolutions were adopted by Local No. 372:

WHEREAS, Our brother, Harry V. Rice, passed away in the prime of life on the 21st day of August, 1908; and

WHEREAS, Our brother was a man of good principles and moral character; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, members of Local No. 372, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, extend to the sorrowing family our heartfelt sympathy in their hour of bereavement; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of thirty days as a token of respect to the memory of our departed brother; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be sent to the near relatives of the deceased brother and to the Electrical Workers' journal and the same be spread on the minutes of our Local Union.

GEO. FULVER,
W. C. CHILDS,
L. I. POTE,
Committee.

New York No. 419.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Inclosed please find copy of resolutions in memorium of our late brother, W. Gor-

such, which we submit to you for publication in the WORKER:

To our Brothers of the I. B. E. W.:

WHEREAS, It has pleased God to call from our midst our beloved brother, W. Gorsuch, who departed from this life Sept. 21, 1908; and

WHEREAS, Our deceased brother was a devoted friend and loyal to our union; therefore, be it

Resolved, That our sincere sympathy be extended to the widow of our deceased brother in the hour of her sudden affliction; that these resolutions be spread on the minutes and a copy be sent to the widow and to the official organ of the I. B., the ELECTRICAL WORKER, for publication; that as a mark of respect for our deceased brother our charter be draped for a period of thirty days.

J. W. SMITH,
Recording Secretary.

Oklahoma No. 456.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As it is about time for the September WORKER, I will send a few lines in behalf of Local 456.

I am glad to report that we are on the increase here, and are getting new members every month. We are also getting back a few members that have been out for months and they have been missed, too, on meeting nights. We sure welcome you back, brothers, for that big Labor Day is close at hand, and we hope to make a fine showing. Through the efforts of Bro. A. C. Hein, we are to lead in the parade. Sure 456 will be right at the top all the time. We are not so slow here as we look.

Now, if any of our floating brothers should happen this way at that time, well, you will be more welcome than the flowers in May to get right in that parade. Of course, you are welcome any time, but on that day we will show the Oklahoma City people that we have the strongest little bunch of wire fixers they ever saw, and if we do say it we have a Local here that has as good fellows in it as you will meet under the sun. We have no knockers in it and don't want any. Our one fault is that some of them don't attend the meetings as often as they should. However, we hope that some of them will lose their girls, then perhaps they would come. Of course we don't wish them bad luck, but, brothers, your place is in the hall on meeting night. Your presence there will do more good than you imagine it will.

Work in this place is getting better than it was, but I would not advise any brothers to come here at present. Most all of our boys are busy, but there is no places vacant here now, so if you come

this way with a paid-up card we will try and get you some biscuits and work if there is any.

Now, I think it is the duty of the Press Secretary and also any member of the Brotherhood not to misinform brothers of condition in other places, then there would not be so many wild goose chases. Now, if you don't like the looks of this, don't read it, because your Uncle Dudley just came in off the tramp and I know how I feel about it.

Hoping this will be in time, will close with all best wishes to the Brotherhood.

Fraternally yours,

W. H. BROCEUS,
Press Secretary.

Cortland No. 459

As it has been some time since No. 459 has been heard from, I will now try and let the brothers know we are doing business in the same old way, with most of the brothers working at something or another.

Old Home week was held in Cortland the week of the 3d, and started with a large parade, in which No. 459 had a fine float. It was made up of two short telephone poles, with arms and wires, electrical fans, motors, arc lamps and in fact everything in which the trade consists of. It made a fine showing.

Things are not as lively around here as they were once, but all the members are at work at something or another and we all hope for better times.

Yours fraternally,

J. J. LEAHY,
Press Secretary.

San Diego, No. 465.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As it has been some time since No. 465 has had a letter in the WORKER, and as the Press Secretary as had sickness to prevent writing, I will get busy and give you a grist of the last two months.

Organizer Bro. White was with us for a time about two months ago, and done some good work in getting some of the inside men to join.

Work is slack in this neck of the woods at present, but for all that the membership is good and we have a fair attendance, considering the time of year, but it could be better.

Now, brothers of the I. B., there is one thing I want to impress on your minds and it is this: Read your WORKER and pay attention to the no-work notices that you see in it. There is no work here; there are twenty linemen and as many inside men out of work. This, as well as other Locals of this district, have notified you through the WORKER, but the brothers will persist in coming here look-

ing for work upon the authority of the Manufacturers' association that there is plenty of work and no one to do it.

Now, brothers, if you want to come to sunny California, come along and see the country, but don't forget the come back end of your ticket, for if you should be so fortunate as to land some, one may take the other end of your ticket off your hands.

Hoping this will miss the scrap heap, I am, Fraternally,

C. J. B.,
Press Secretary.

York No. 469.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As it has been some time since 469 has had a letter in the WORKER I thought I would let you know that we are still in existence and still doing business at the same old stand. Work is very scarce here at present. If any brother comes this way be sure that your card is paid up to date. If they are not you will not get any sympathy from 469. If any of the brothers meet any of the following brothers, you will give them the glad hand because they are of the true blue kind: M. P. Patterson, Loyd Gale, D. Clapsadle, John Kinkle.

Brother E. Lucas had a very narrow escape from being electrocuted some time ago. He was caught on 24,000. His helper was instantly killed.

Well, I will stop for this time. With best wishes for the I. B. E. W.

Fraternally yours,

J. W. ALLAMONG,
Rec. Sec.

York No. 469.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

"The Good Union Man." Well meaning men sometimes have a very wrong idea of what constitutes a good union man. A good union man is not the one who always boasts of his undying hatred to all employers and that he has sacrificed many good positions through this hatred. He is not the jealous individual who rails against the union, threatening to pull away and smash it to pieces and have no more to do with it because so-and-so made a better suggestion in the meeting, which was adopted instead of his. He is not the one who goes around abusing everybody and everything and saying by his every act that there is no good in anything or anybody but himself and his own doings. He is not the selfish man who wants to keep others out of the union lest they might get his job. Good union men hold their jobs on their merits as workmen. He also willfully mistreats his employer, expecting to be reinstated by force of the union when discharged, im-

poses on the usefulness of the union and is not a good union man. He is not the one who acquaints his employer with all private affairs of the union. He is not one who tries to obtain another's job by false or unfair means. He is one who absents himself from meetings of his local and criticises those who do attend for what they do. He is not one who is always behind with his dues. He is not the one who promotes disorder at the meetings of the union and who persist in showing disrespect to the presiding officers and others who address the meeting.

The good union man is he who while insisting on just wages and working conditions also has respect for the right of his employer and does not regard him necessarily in the light of an enemy. He who is charitably disposed toward the faults of others and tries hard to live up to the true conception of a good union man. He is not so selfish but that he can give due credit to the conscientious work and utterances of others. He who recognizes that the union is for all workers who avail themselves of its benefits. He who has good sense to know that the success of the union depends upon getting others to join it. He who does not divulge the business of the union to outsiders. He who loves peace, preferring not to fight the employer, yet who is sensitive to unjust treatment and who is no coward. He who is not afraid to go to his employer and in straightforward manner point out injustice and insist upon having the same righted. He who opposes strike and consents to them only when all other means of righting wrongs have utterly failed. He who when he goes out on a strike stays out till the wrong is righted. He whose card is always clear. He who is not a knocker, but by force of logic opposes all foolish notions and insists upon the passage of all good ones. He who is mentally broad enough to admit that there are others besides himself.

PETER PETERSON.

Salem No. 512.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Bro. George A. Go's. of L. U. 512, was killed on Aug. 6, 1908, by a 2300 volt primary while working for the P. R. L. & P. Co. The brother is survived by his wife and one six-year-old daughter.

San Francisco No. 537.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

All members who owe Jacob Schwartz, North German Hotel, Eighth and Brannan, San Francisco, Cal., try and pay up. Those that can't would be considered men if they would drop a line and say why they can't. He does not wish to

publish any names or cause any brother any trouble, but will do something in a short while. This gentleman has been white, and any member of I. B. E. W. that beats a board bill there will hear from Local No. 537, so don't let a notice appear again.

J. H. WALTERS.
Bus. Agent.

Hammond No. 571.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Labor Day has come and gone, but it made an impression on the minds of many thousands of people who thronged the streets in the new steel city of Gary, Ind., what organized labor can put forth in a parade on this memorable day, which was given under the auspices of the Associated Building Trades Council of Lake County, Indiana, this being the largest labor demonstration ever held in northern Indiana by far.

There being a prize awarded for the best order maintained throughout the line of march, which, I am glad to say, was captured by Local No. 571, I. B. of E. W. due to the good work of our worthy marshal, Bro. J. J. Finneran, and Bro. Jim Bates with the banner.

Local No. 571 is still doing business on the ground floor. We have most of our brothers working again, due to the fact that the bottom of the contractors' association of Gary, Ind., fell out, which had locked out all building trades in that territory since the latter part of August, but work is not very plentiful in Lake county at present, and not very good prospects for the future.

I am sorry to state that our worthy chairman, Harry Harwath, took a traveling ticket at our last meeting and we wish him good luck on his journey, and have nominated Bro. J. J. Finneran to fill the chair.

This being all the dope I can muster at the present writing, and wishing the Brotherhood success, I am,

Fraternally yours,

RAY F. ABBOTT,
Press Secretary.

Bremerton No. 574.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Burwell Local No. 574 is one year old and in honor of the occasion we had a smoker long to be remembered, at least by some of our too enthusiastic brothers, but these birthdays only come once a year. We were assisted in our entertaining, also in our refreshments, by quite a number of visiting brothers, and every one went home claiming that No. 574 was a success in its infancy. That all happened on the 28th of last month and to make up for the good time we had

we initiated three and took care of one application on the 11th, thus showing that we are alive and out for business.

Work here has been quite plentiful for the past few weeks, but quite a few of our peace (?) boats expect to leave soon and then some of us will have to hunt a place to draw salary. Outside of the navy yard there is very little doing, the "Bell" Co. having only one man, the light one man, and the independent telephone company that was making an attempt at starting has only succeeded in setting a few poles and left the balance of them on the ground ready to be set later on.

They had quite a number of arms sent here but they are laying on the wharf yet. What little work they did was with ground men, and from the present outlook they won't need anybody else.

Should any brother happen around our way the second and fourth Tuesday evenings be sure and come to the Eagle's Hall, where you will be given a hearty welcome and we will do what we can otherwise.

V. H. JAMESON,
Rec. Sec.

Tulsa No. 584.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

It was long before Labor Day we had a committee meeting every week with Central Body Committee to make arrangements for Labor Day, and we thank this committee and do commend their work, for it was well done. Their duty fulfilled in every way and they had the full support of every brother. With the work all complete, the day drawing nearer, every brother of No. 584 felt that his work was done and all awaited anxiously, and on the morning of September 7 was the day set aside for all labor to unite in one great band and enjoy the day. The day was bright, every workman was out and seemed to have new life. The sun rose and shown its gentle rays down on this last, but not least, the 46th star. There seemed to be a special ray for L. U. No. 584. It was 10 a. m. when all was ready and with 172 unions represented, thirty floats and 1,550 in line the parade begun (and this town has only 17,000 people). Of course the Electrical Workers carried away everything. The float was 14 by 20, with a gasoline engine and a dynamo. We had lights galore. Each man had a 3-inch bell and a dry cell in his pocket. We also had the finest banner in the city. It occupied a very appropriate place in the center of the speakers' stand. Every one enjoyed themselves and the ground was crowded. At night our float was pulled some distance from the speakers' stand and we hooked her up with the speakers' stand and other prominent

places and furnished light. The day was a grand success in every way.

Bro. J. G. Landis, of St. Louis, was with us. He is a good one. Come again, Landis.

I will try and give you a few notes:

Bro. Olansen was fined \$1.00 for not being in line of parade. Just ask him why. Well, we don't hardly blame him. Bro. Wm. Drake came through this month with wife and daughters going to Ft. Scott. Our worthy President was not in line for he had work that had to be done. We all know he regretted it and we all know that some one had to work. We have one of the best locals on this side of the river. We are gaining every day, and if you come this way you had better carry the green goods paid up, for we have an agreement with all inside shops and it is a good one for both contractors and our L. U. Also a new wage scale signed up until Aug. 1, 1909, of \$3.50 per 8 hours. Bro. Paul Ettinger, superintendent of the light, also makes that job closed, but we have no agreement with them. Now all of you that come this way be sure to have the green goods and you can eat two meals and sleep once. It will be cheaper to have them before you get here, for after the first of next month chances are you will pay \$25.00 to get No. 584 to cut her straight through on to you.

Well, boys, I will leave you for two weeks on full pay; am going for a little outing. Hoping no trouble will appear on the Gamewell, with best wishes from No. 584, we remain,

Yours fraternally,

J. A. NORRIS.

Kansas City No. 592.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I was forced to drop a line to the boys through the WORKER, so they might know what is doing in K. C. Things are awful slim.

Our ex-President, H. G. Willoughby, left here Saturday for Chicago.

We have four or five that are not working now, but hope to see them to work soon, as they have not done much since the strike only at intervals.

Our new President is Bro. E. Seigman, from Toronto; V. P., A. E. Yetter, and as Bro. Deer of the office of F. S. is in St. Joe on a job of fixture work, Bro. H. S. O'Neal (our Mickie) is still B. A., and also F. S. and Treas. Poor boy, he don't take any interest in the L. U. He is like some of the rest, always at the last end, with getting O after his name. It is always marked present.

I am sorry to say that we have three that have gone back on us. I will tell you who they are: C. C. Neese, who came here from Ohio, who claims he at one time was with the Brown Fixture Co.,

also St. Louis Brass. He has sandy hair, gray eyes, drinks and weighs 185 pounds, height about 5 ft. 6 in.; one who was raised by the strike from 32½¢ to 42½¢ per hour, time and one-half for over time; Leo Dorner, Jew, but claims he is German, sandy moustache and hair, wears glasses, got gold teeth in front and silver in back, good at water color drawing, also has (lasses) on his hands, tools and material, both stick, so he is easy to remember. G. L. Rambler is the third; he had the nerve to ask the L. V. to give him a letter to L. U. 55 of Des Moines or send one there. I was instructed to do so, but never did, for the next week I heard he was going to work for Hodge Mnfg. Co, which is unfair to the I. B. He asked and was accepted as Press Secretary the last meeting before he scabbed, therefore carried off the mailing list and lots of our paper, with the seal. I hope he makes a better preacher than he has a union man, also that if he used the paper for any illegal purposes that it will get him in trouble that will make him remember his promises in his obligation to the G. O. and L. U. He is about 5 ft. 5 in. tall, dark hair, wears glasses, pimples all over his face, good fibre; of course I would not want to say lie; very much on the word of "now, fellows," which he uses as a by-word, smokes cigarettes like his friend Dormer does (Trophies).

Bro. Fusbek of St. Louis was here for a while with the L. C. Ross Co, but took a traveler out two weeks ago to go back to St. Louis.

Bro. Milligan, of Chicago, was here a short time ago to do a bank job. He done the job, but not the bank. The boys would like to have him stay here, but he had some kind of a string tied to him at Chicago, so he pulled out and left us.

Bro. A. C. Gurnell is out some place, I think in Mexico. If you run on him give him a warm hand and we will return it some day. He is one of those who attend to the meetings regular and will say is the only one in the shop that he worked in here that did so. That is the kind that is good L. U. men. We have some three or four that we have to run after, but the new B. T. D. cards will soon make them come to time.

Will state I was called for not having one week before last and had to get off the job and get mine.

Yours fraternally,

WM. E. SKINNER,
Recording Secretary.

Dunkirk No. 593.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

It is about time there was another letter in the WORKER from the Lake City so I will get busy and write a few lines, hoping I will get them in in time for the October number.

Conditions here are not very favorable, although all the boys except two or three are working, and one of the idle ones, Bro. Pope, had the misfortune to fall and break an arm, but I am glad to report he is all O. K. again and ready for anything that looks right.

Some of the boys are expecting to hear every Saturday night the old familiar song, "You're laid off until further notice."

The B. and L. E. Traction Co. expect to commence work soon at Westfield, N. Y., to complete their line to Buffalo, but don't know yet what kind of a job it will be.

It is with a feeling of sadness that I report the death of Bro. Geo. Colborne, who died on Sept. 16. About three weeks previous to his death and while working for the B. and L. E. Traction Co., he received a shock of electricity, causing him to fall from a pole in such a manner as to injure his spine, death finally resulting. No man more loyal to the union ever carried a card than Bro. Colborne. He was of a cheerful disposition and always had a glad hand for every one, and it leaves a vacancy in L. U. No. 593 that cannot easily be filled. The following resolutions were adopted Sept. 18 by L. U. No. 593:

WHEREAS, It has pleased the Almighty Ruler of the Universe to take from our midst our esteemed brother, George Colborne;

WHEREAS, The intimate relation of our departed brother held with the members of this union make it our solemn duty to express our esteem for his manly worth and deep sorrow at the loss, and at the still heavier loss sustained by those nearest and dearest to him; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the removal of such a brother from our midst leaves a vacancy that will be deeply felt by all the members of the Union and his friends; and be it further

Resolved, That in deep sympathy with the afflicted relatives of our departed brother we express our earnest hope that even so great a bereavement may be overruled for the greatest good, and we bow in humble submission to God's will; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of thirty days in testimony of the respect and esteem in which our late brother was held by his fellow members, and that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of our local, and that copies be sent to the bereaved family, and also to our official journal for publication.

J. E. JOHNSON,

W. O. PECK,

C. R. PECK,

Committee.

Just before closing I would like to say just a word or two to the brothers,

especially those that do not attend meetings regular. I do not think it is asking too much to have you come to the hall twice a month, because it is for your interest as much as it is for the interest of those that attend regular. Do not let a few, "because they are willing," have all the work to do, but come and do your share.

I will now close, with best wishes to the I. B. E. W.

Yours fraternally.

J. E. JOHNSON,
Press Secretary.

Minneapolis No. 597.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

"Cheer, cheer, the gang's all here." And you can bet we were all there Sept. 7 in the Labor Day parade. We wore gray hats, black ties, black belts, white shirts and white pants. Locals 541, 292 and 597 marched in a body and all had the above uniforms on.

Bro. Malone carried No. 597's banner and done the job very gracefully and did not even sweat in the five mile walk.

The three Locals marched together, and I believe they should do the same in any city where there are two Locals.

I will not try and tell about the parade any further, as there no doubt will be other letters coming from here that will fully explain everything. All I want to say is that we should all work to double the number for next year, and if we all work toward that end we can more than do that. With Minneapolis with three hundred and twenty thousand people and three Locals with only about one hundred and fifty members in the Labor Day parade ought to be an inducement to any man to work for a membership. So let us see, brothers, how big we can grow by next September.

I will state that with two telephone companies, two telegraph companies, one electric light and one street railway company and numerous electrical concerns and contractors, we have a large field to work in. We will go back to the parade again or right after it we had our pictures took in front of the court house and at the present time the fellow has not brought them back. Then we lubricated at several places down town, then we went to the picnic at Tonka Bay. It was given by the joint Labor Day committee of the Minneapolis Trades and Labor Assembly, and was well attended. Some of our boys stayed in town and set a few slugs, while the rest of us were making merry at the lake, and McMahon says he don't need any more slugs for a long time.

At the "Little Dandy" they gave a double corner and two crossarms with every ten cent purchase, so I guess the

boys must have done some work and all I feel bad about I was to the lake and the water wasn't good.

We are getting along as good as can be expected and in a few days will be waiting for our delegate to come back from St. Louis and tell us about it, and when he comes I hope he will have news so we can go to work and build ourselves to the place we once held in the trade union movement in Minneapolis.

If Bro. Hans Hansen sees this letter, write to 2423 16th Ave., South Minneapolis, Minn.

Well, I will close, hoping to read good reports from all over regarding the Labor Day parade.

Yours fraternally,

"Doc."

Minneapolis No. 597.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

The following resolutions were adopted by Local Union No. 597, Minneapolis, Minn.:

WHEREAS, The Almighty Ruler of the Universe has seen fit to enter the home of our beloved brother, Harry C. Hamilton, and remove from their midst their beloved brother, S. L. Hamilton; therefore, be it

Resolved. That it is but a just tribute to the memory of the departed to say in regretting his removal from our midst that we, the members of Local Union No. 597 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, city of Minneapolis, Minn., mourn for one who was in every way worthy of our respect and regards; be it further

Resolved. That we sincerely condole with the family of the deceased on the disposition with which it has pleased the Divine Providence to afflict them, and commend them for the consolation to Him who orders all things for the best, and whose chastisements are meant; be it further

Resolved. That this heartfelt testimonial of sympathy and sorrow be forwarded to the bereaved family, and that a copy be spread upon the minutes of this Local Union, and a copy be forwarded to the official journal for publication.

Signed, EDW. J. BERBERG.

FRANK FISHER.

A. J. MCPHEE.

Committee.

Columbus No. 600.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Just a few lines from Local 600 to let all brothers know we are still in existence, and as far as the financial end is concerned will be, for small as we are still we were able to spare five dollars to help our unfortunate brothers of Local No. 5, Pittsburg.

It has always been a hard case to start a Local here, as previous attempts have shown, and these hard times are not helping us now, for a number of our best officers and brothers have taken out traveling cards and went off looking for work, so we are having a hard time filling the various offices. So if we can keep things going till work is plentiful, I think our Local will turn out to be a success, for at present there are a number of brothers here who are afraid to come around for fear of losing their jobs.

The following have been elected officers at our previous meeting: President, Eugene Seegar; Vice President and Treasurer, E. N. Ackey; Recording Secretary, James Farrell; Financial Secretary, H. E. Miller; Trustee, Earl Franks; Foreman, J. A. Bassett.

Yours,
JAMES M. FARRELL,
Recording Secretary.

Pana No. 605.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I will write a few lines which I hope you will see fit to publish in your next issue.

Local No. 605 is somewhat a young local, as it is not yet a year old. We were organized with a charter of twelve, but have not grown fast enough to make any gain in number for it seemed as fast as we got new members old ones would remove.

We have had nothing of interest to write about until August 22, when the Pana Chautauqua was in session. When Labor Day came the I. B. E. W. had the good luck to get to furnish the speaker. We requested our G. S., Peter W. Collins, to visit Pana on that day and give the talk. He responded to the request in good shape, and can gladly say, with all brothers in No. 605, that if any other local wants a speaker for a like occasion they will do well to call on our G. S., Peter W. Collins.

Yours in Union,
WM. A. SWIM,
Rec. Sec.

P. S.—I am mailing at the same time with this letter a picture of the Union Men's Committee from T. C. Reading from left to right they are:

I. Williams (of Miners); O. P. Galvin (owner of machine No. 1); J. Lewis (of Painters); Wm. Merriman (I. B. E. W.); Wm. Stinley (of Miners); Bert Lowe (I. B. E. W.); J. Broehl (owner of machine No. 2); B. Murphy (of Miners); B. Vickrage (I. B. E. W.); Peter W. Collins, G. S.; Cannan (of Carpenters); E. Eihler (owner of machine No. 3); N. Gum (I. B. E. W.); E. Mosher (A. F. of L.); F. Howell (owner of machine No. 4); E. Coalman, G. Shanks and J. Kennedy (of Miners).

Virginia City No. 613.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

In view of the fact that a number of Locals of the I. B. E. W. participated in parades throughout the country on Labor Day, I take great pleasure in sending you a clipping from one of our local papers, which will show that Local No. 613 attracted some attention in the parade held here:

"Local No. 613 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, captured the prize for the best appearance in the line. All the members were neatly attired in black working costume, each carrying canes of electric wire with varicolored globes as handles."

The unions representing every line of trade carried on in this vicinity were in line, and while every member of Local No. 613 took part, we had the least number of men. However, when the judges awarded the prize to the Electrical Workers it was stated on all sides that the fairness of their decision was without question.

Our attentive and worthy President, George C. Corbett, felt as proud as the proudest leading his fifteen brother workers in line and he was being congratulated all day on the fine appearance made by his union.

Much credit is due Bro. Arthur Gerrey for the neat and attractive work he did on the canes we carried and when I say that hundreds of people were trying to buy them at any price after the parade, it can be judged that they were "some nice."

There was but one cane that left the ranks of the Electrical Workers and that was presented by Bro. T. J. Blake to the president of the day, Ed. Hooper of Reno, Nev. In making the presentation, Bro. Blake delivered an able and most eloquent address, being loudly cheered by a vast audience.

Local No. 401 of Reno, Nev., was well represented here on Labor Day and when they were returning to their homes at midnight seemed to be very well pleased with their visit.

Every member of Local 613 is working at present and every man employed at the business in this jurisdiction is a member in good standing. The work at this place is always about the same, nearly all of us being steadily employed. The wages are fair in all branches of the trade.

There are no other items of interest I can think of at this writing, so thanking you for what space you may give us in the WORKER, I will close with best wishes for success to all brothers of the I. B. E. W.

Fraternally yours,
J. G. CAVANAUGH,
Press Secretary.

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